Grounded cargo vessel is pulled safely to port. » PAGE 5

Saipan residents 'never forget' 9/11 tragedy. » PAGE 8

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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WITH 4 ONLY DAYS LEFT BEFORE PAYMENT DEADLINE

$800K land comp payments snagged by constitutional woes

By Haidee V. Eugenio
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Only about four days remain before a local law's 60-day deadline to pay a total of $800,000 in Saipan land compensation but the Department of Public Lands is uncertain whether to distribute those payments this week to over 200 landowners because a certified question on the measure's constitutionality has yet to be submitted to the court. Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation chair Rep. Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan) also said that DPL or the Inos administration has yet to issue a public statement on the status of payments.

"All we know is that DPL came up with a formula for payments of the land compensation based on the local law, so we saw that as a sign that they're preparing or are already prepared to distribute payments on or before Sept.

See $800K on Page 4

Brown tree snake found on Rota

CNMI Brown Tree Snake Rapid Responders assemble traps to be deployed in response to the captured brown tree snake on Rota.
SYLVAN IGISOMAR/USFWS

» Officials continue the battle against the invasive snake

A live brown tree snake was captured on the island of Rota, in the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, on Sept. 3, 2014, by a Brown Tree Snake K-9 handler from the CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources' Division of Fish and Wildlife.

The male snake, measuring 40.16 inches long and weighing about 42 grams, was captured in a snake trap along the Rota Seaport fence line.

The brown tree snake represents a significant threat to the natural resources and economy of the CNMI. The threat of brown tree snake introduction is constant given the close proximity to the island of Guam, where the snake has decimated native bird species and causes significant economic impacts to such things as Guam's electrical grid.

See SNAKE on Page 4

CONTACT INFO

To report any sightings of brown tree snakes, call :

- Rota BTS Program: 287-ROTA
- BTS Hotline: 28-SNAKE
- CNMI DFW: 664-6004
- CNMI BTS Program: 664-6014

'Enough with doing more with less'

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The largest school in terms of population on island, Marianas High School with over 1,560 students, has a maintenance staff of one.

Tanapag Middle School also has one person maintaining its grounds, while Hopwood Junior High School also has limitations on its personnel as well as funds in addressing maintenance issues—one of which are water leaks—which MHS incidentally has solved, TMS is working on, and Hopwood indicating no

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LOCAL

Search suspended for a Navy fighter pilot whose jet crashed near Wake Island.

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Federal authorities are chasing a treasure hunter who's turned fugitive.

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WORLD

Islamic extremists release a video showing the beheading of a British aid worker.

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Local

Proposed deal with law firm to pursue claims vs Merrill Lynch rejected

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood has rejected NMI Settlement Fund trustee Joyce C.H. Tang's proposed engagement agreement with a law firm that is currently representing the claims against the NMI Retirement Fund's former consultant, Merrill Lynch.

In an order on Thursday, Tydingco-Gatewood, however, ordered that, based on Tang's representation that she has reviewed the Merrill Lynch litigation and has found the claims meritorious, the trustee, on behalf of the Settlement Fund, may pursue the assignment of the claims in the Merrill Lynch litigation.

Tydingco-Gatewood found that the financial terms proposed in the engagement agreement with a law firm were unreasonable. The judge said the trustee shall not assume any liability or obligation under the settlement and assignment agreement without prior court approval.

The judge ordered the trustee to negotiate the financial terms with counsel for the claimants in the Merrill Lynch litigation and to submit any such agreement to the court for approval.

Based on the Settlement Fund trustee legal team's review of the litigation, Tang recommended that the court approve a request to substitute the trustee as claimant against Merrill Lunch in the claims that are now pending in an arbitration proceeding before the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority.

Tang made the recommendation in her combined second and third quarter report for fiscal year 2014 filed in federal court. Tydingco-Gatewood held a hearing on the report on Tuesday.

Tang said the work related to prosecuting the claims against Merrill Lynch will increase the cost of the trustee expenses and consultant fees, but the additional cost is justified by the potential damage award that the Settlement Fund can receive.

The trustee expects additional time and travel expenses will be incurred in connection with the FINRA arbitration of approximately $95,000 from last year's budget of $180,000.

In addition, Tang said they would like to retain the services of Maggie Ralbovsky of Wilshire Consulting Inc., the Settlement Fund's investment consultant, to advise the Settlement Fund regarding the issues in the lawsuit.

Tang said an additional $50,000 was budgeted for Ralbovsky's consultant fee, which will be charged on a time and expenses basis.

Merrill Lynch was the Fund board's investment consultant until 2010. During the time of the consultancy relationship, the value of Fund's assets reportedly declined substantially.

As a result, individual claimants Mariano Taitano, Roman T. Tudela, and Patricia Guerrero filed a lawsuit in Superior Court against the Fund's board, Merrill Lynch, and unnamed others, alleging various causes of action for damages relating to the decline of the Fund's assets.

The Fund's board later assigned its potential claims against Merrill Lynch to certain Fund members who were willing to litigate the claims.

The lawsuit in the Superior Court was then stayed and the matter was submitted to arbitration before FINRA.

IF FEDERAL COURT GRANTS EPA'S MOTION:

'CUC receiver can't be sued without court's consent'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal, the receiver that will be appointed to implement some Commonwealth Utilities Corp. projects will be responsible solely to the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

U.S. Department of Justice Environmental Enforcement Section senior attorney Bradley R. O'Brien said the receiver shall not be personally liable for any act done in compliance with the court's order.

"No suit shall be filed against the receiver without the consent of the court," said O'Brien in EPA's or U.S. government's proposed order for the appointment of a receiver. The same EPA proposal wants the court to find CUC in breach of stipulated order number 2, or SO2, and to find CUC in contempt.

EPA is not seeking the appointment of a receiver for CUC generally—at least for now—but someone who will take charge of implementing the court's SO2.

SO2 focuses on oil issues such as repairing and replacing infrastructure, managing tanks and pipelines, and spill prevention and response.

O'Brien said within 60 days, the United States, CUC, and CNMI shall propose potential receivers for court approval.

The United States, he said, will identify up to five potential receivers, while CUC and the CNMI will also jointly identify up to five potential receivers.

O'Brien said the receiver shall have full power and authority to enforce the terms of SO2 and assume all of the responsibilities, functions, duties, powers, and authority of CUC, and any of all departments or other components of CUC.

CUC and the CNMI shall be jointly responsible for the receiver's expenses. Within 30 days, CUC and the CNMI shall deposit $7 million into an escrow account approved by the federal court.

The $7 million is intended to reimburse all or a portion of the "receiver's expenses" and for the oil pipeline project and Tank 102 project (diesel fuel tank) funding.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge David O. Carter will hear EPA's motion on Sept. 24. Prior to the hearing, Carter will conduct on Saturday, Sept. 20, another on-site inspection of CUC's projects and facilities that have concerns or disputes.

Carter is a Central District of California jurist who is handling EPA's lawsuit against CUC.

Carter said the schedule should minimally include a walk from the terminal to the plant facility to Tank 102, along the oil pipeline project route.

Carter said he will use the joint report and the Sept. 20 inspections to guide him on how to proceed with the case.

The federal court signed the stipulated orders in 2009, setting the requirements and deadlines for the utilities agency to meet. The orders represent an agreement between the CNMI and the EPA on how CUC will come into compliance with the requirements of the Clean Air Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act.

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Bid to suppress statements of man in sex assault case nixed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman has denied the request of a former Rota liaison employee, who is facing charges that he attempted to sexually assault his then 21-year-old godson last year, to suppress the statements he made to police officers before and after his arrest.

Wiseman determined that the CNMI government successfully shouldered its burden to prove that the Miranda warnings given to defendant Allan Apatang Taitano were adequate under statute and case law.

Wiseman said that Taitano agreed to speak with officers and detectives on two separate occasions after voluntarily waiving his procedural due process rights—both after his formal arrest and subsequent Miranda warnings, and after reading and signing the "Constitutional Rights Form."

Police arrested the 44-year-old Taitano in April 2013 in Dandan for allegedly attempting to sexually assault the victim inside a vehicle in an open field in As Lito. The victim managed to run away and hide in the jungle for several hours.

Taitano, through counsel public defender Douglas Hartig and deputy public defender Eden Schwartz, moved the court to suppress statements made in response to police questioning during an encounter which occurred outside his home, as well as any statements made inside the police car following his arrest.

Taitano argued that these statements should be suppressed due to law enforcement's failure to warn him of his Miranda rights prior to questioning and because they were not produced following a knowing, voluntary, and intelligent waiver, respectively.

In the government's opposition, assistant attorney general Margo Brown-Badawy argued, among other things, that anything Taitano stated before his arrest is admissible because he volunteered any statements and was not interrogated before his arrest, and that once he was formally arrested, he knowingly and voluntarily waived his rights under Miranda.

In his order last week that denied Taitano's motion, Wiseman pointed out that Taitano's statement made before being asked to put his hands on his vehicle is admissible, and the court denies suppressing that statement.

Wiseman said the court evaluates whether asking a defendant to place his hands on his own vehicle constitutes a formal custodial arrest so as to trigger the necessity of Miranda warnings before questioning defendant.

In this case, the judge noted, the law enforcement officers arrived at the defendant's house just hours after an alleged sexual assault had been committed, learning the location of the defendant's residence from the victim and his family and confirming it by identifying defendant's vehicle which was parked outside the residence.

Wiseman said a police officer testified that he asked a man that emerged from the house if he was Allan Taitano, to which the defendant answered "yes."

The officer subsequently asked him to place his hands on his vehicle, so they could see them for their own safety.

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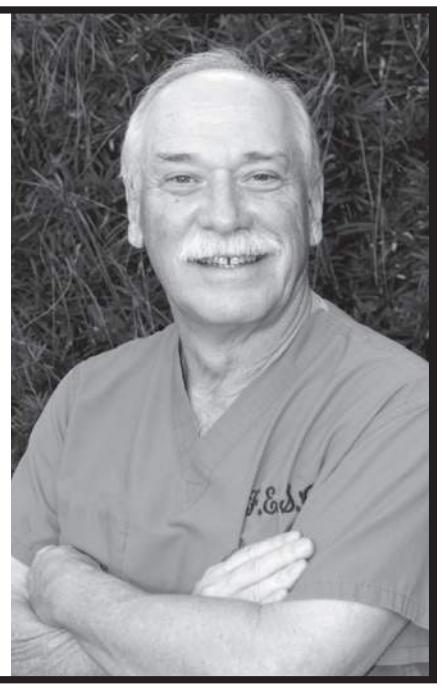

MHS team's winning plane design being considered for manufacture

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas High School Aeronautical Dolphins' aircraft design for the 2013 Real World Design Challenge competition, which won the overall championship, may potentially see the skies, according to MHS principal Sherlyn Cabrera.

Anthony Copolla, RWDC's North America Education program manager told the school in an email: "We're considering a pilot in manufacturing some student designs and want to potentially use your team's winning design from last year for our initial test and prototype."

John Raulerson, coach of the Aeronautical Dolphins, said he feels the team has a good chance of being chosen by the RWDC program for this pilot run.

"We won it last year so I'm assuming that they're going to take ours," he said.

Caberera called last year's victory as another "opportunity to be awesome" for MHS students. "They beat all the other states. That is huge," she said, adding that these students now are "a part of history."

She said the students have gotten scholarship offers to go to Embry-Riddle, an aeronautical university—which according to the RWDC website, is worth $50,000.

Cabrera commended the team's efforts as they meet as early as 3am in the morning to take part in webinars with Washington, D.C.

"I really want to give a shout out to our students," she said on their achievements.

MHS has won the RWDC Pacific Region title for the last three years. In November this year at Washington, D.C., they will defend their title with this year's aircraft-in-progress, "The HawkEye 670."

Raulerson said he thinks the "Hawkeye" is even better than the 2013 champion prototype being considered for manufacture.

"It has more capability," he said.

The aircraft has jet-engine technology and multi-flight controls, among other features, according to Raulerson.

"It can hover, it can rotate on a vertical axis, it can balance itself on a lateral axis," Raulerson said, listing some of its dynamics.

He said the team just has to take care of the electrical component as they are choosing what type of battery to use.

"I think it's going be a really good aircraft," he said.

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BY BILLY MOREHEAD AND BILL MILLER

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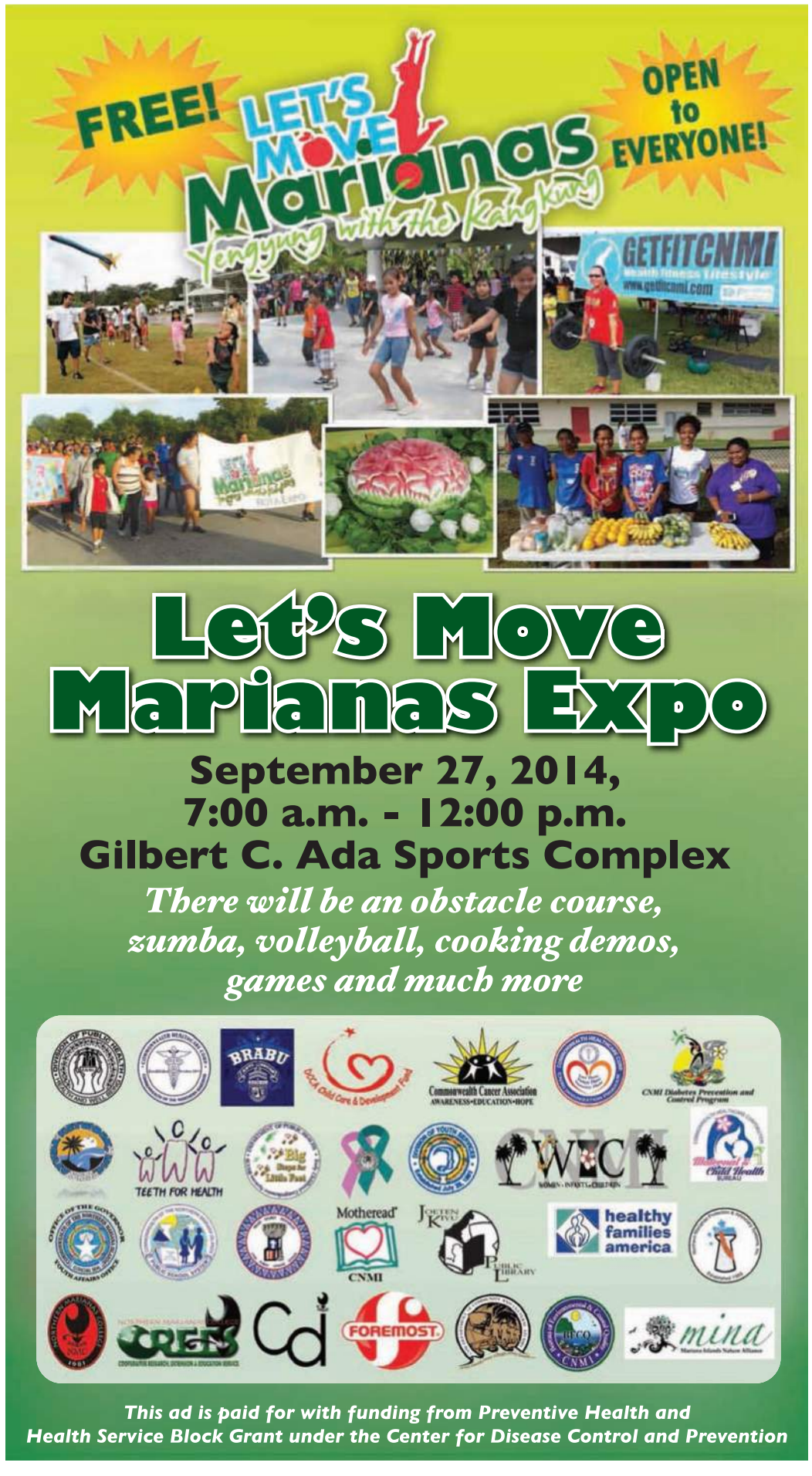
Time: 8:00am - 5:00pm
Registration begins at 7:30am
Location: Hyatt Regency Saipan
Seminar Fee: $125 Per Person, Buffet lunch is included
Registration Deadline: Monday, September 15, 2014

To register or for more information, please contact Glenda P. Cabrera via email at glendacabrera@deloitte.com or Cassandra S. Palacios at capalacios@deloitte.com or via phone at 670-322-7337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Governor poised to sign budget bill as early as today

Gov. Eloy S. Inos is poised to sign into law the fiscal year 2015 budget bill as early as today, 10 days after the $134.33-million spending package reached his desk.

Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) and other officials said yesterday that the governor has scheduled the budget bill's signing today.

This comes after the governor himself said on Thursday that he is close to acting on the budget bill. He said there are concerns but "nothing major."

If and when he signs the budget bill today, it would be a record-early for the CNMI. It would still be more than two weeks before the Sept. 30 deadline.

The CNMI government must have a new budget on or before Oct. 1, the start of fiscal year 2015, or the government would have to partially shut down again.

The budget bill that's before Inos went through a bicameral committee that came up with a compromise House-Senate version. The compromises included those pertaining to education funding, restoration of Tinian's prior year funding level, and scrapping of a provision waiving taxes and gaming fees in exchange for the government$400,000 in unpaid La Fiesta leases, among other things.

"We are getting there. We are pretty close. I do believe we have a budget, but it's just that we want to make sure that we point out some areas of concern," Inos told reporters on Thursday on Capital Hill. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

Candidates set for ASNMC student leaders

Only about 10 to 30 percent of Northern Marianas College students participate in voting for the college's student leaders, according to Queanna Sablan, program manager for the office of student activities and leadership.

"We're hoping that [participation will go up]. We're going to implement some strategies on how to push to students to practice their vote," Sablan said.

She said they are hoping to have student volunteers point students around the campus to the student center on voting days as opposed to "just waiting for students to come."

The candidates for the Associated Students of NMC are set to be voted in on Sept. 23 and 24 between 9am to 6am at college's student center.

Eight candidates are running—some for more than one position—for ASNMC president, vice president, treasurer, secretary, and its three senator positions.

Only one candidate, Riya Nathrani, who is also ASNMC's interim president, has been nominated for president.

In an interview, Nathrani said she believes students "need to be more involved" with activities on campus and she would like, as president, to push for more entertainment and sports events to help student unwind and cope with their stress.

"Many of our students are non-traditional students and have to deal with stresses outside… like full-time jobs and supporting a family," she said.

Other than sports and entertainment, she plans to have student discussion forums to get personal takes on issues they may be facing at NMC.

She believes ASNMC provides a "channel of communication from staff to students and back again," bringing up concerns students may have to college administrators.

"I want to make sure students feel a sense of ownership over their education, and that is why I chose to run [for president]," Nathrani said.

Guadalupe Camacho, Jimin Cheon, and Salvi Villanueva are running for vice president. Villanueva and his brother Andrew are also running for treasurer with Roman Tudela.

The Villanuevas are also running for secretary, while Camacho, Cheon, Andrew Villanueva, Adrian Pangelinan, and Keisuke Yoshiday are running for the senator positions. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

$800K

From Page 1

19, which is the last day of the 60-day period. Otherwise, DPL should have come out publicly why there won't be payments this week as required by local law," Tebuteb told *Saipan Tribune* Friday.

He said DPL would be in violation of the law if it does not distribute the land compensation payments as the local law requires.

DPL Secretary Pete A. Tenorio referred questions yesterday about land compensation payments to the Office of the Attorney General.

OAG asked the Saipan legislative delegation to join the Inos administration in submitting a certified question to the court whether the local law appropriating $800,000 in Managaha landing fee for land compensation payments is constitutional.

Both parties have to agree to submit a certified question.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos allowed the deadline to act on the local bill to lapse, so the measure became Saipan Local Law 18-19 on July 19 without the governor's signature.

Under the local law, $800,000 in Managaha landing fees should be paid for Saipan land compensation within 60 days of the local bill becoming law. The same law appropriates $100,000 each to the Northern Marianas Descent Corp. and the NMI Museum of History and Culture, but within 90 days of the measure becoming law.

Under the $800,000 land compensation payment law, at least 223 Saipan landowners will get anywhere from 89 cents to over $190,000 based on DPL's calculation sent to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation.

DPL Land Claims Division head Ray Salas said Friday that based on prior discussion with the department secretary, it is "unconstitutional" to use the Managaha landing fee to pay land compensations.

Tebuteb said it's now a "wait-and-see" situation, "with the clock ticking" for DPL to distribute payments.

The lawmaker said previous laws also appropriated Managaha landing fees for different programs or projects, and there was no question whether they were constitutional or unconstitutional.

A case in point, Tebuteb said, is Public Law 13-16, which makes a one-time appropriation of Managaha landing fees for the Marianas Visitors Authority to revitalize the tourism industry.

That bill was authored by then-House speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider, and was signed into law by then-governor Juan N. Babauta. Both Hofschneider and Babauta are once again gubernatorial candidates, this time in the 2014 general elections, and so is Inos.

Rep. Anthony Benavente (Ind-Saipan), author of the bill that became SLL 18-19, said once DPL distributes the $800,000 land compensation payments, he is considering introducing another local bill appropriating $2 million more in Managaha landing fees also for land compensation payments.

But like Tebuteb, Benavente is waiting for an official communication from DPL whether $800,000 will be paid to Saipan landowners later this week.

SNAKE

From Page 1

Federal and local officials are continuing their efforts to keep the brown tree snake out of the CNMI. Snake traps are being maintained around ports and airports on Rota, Tinian, and Saipan to detect stowaway snakes from Guam that might have entered cargo, ships, or aircraft. This is the first brown tree snake to be found in an early detection trap on Rota.

"The Department of the Interior, which includes the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Geological Survey, is committed to working closely with our CNMI partners to prevent the establishment of the brown tree snake on Rota and throughout the CNMI," said Earl Campbell, the service's assistant field supervisor for invasive species and terrestrial Marianas issues.

A coordinated effort between the CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, CNMI Governor's Office, Rota Mayor's Office, Rota Municipal Council, and the U.S. Geological Survey led to development of a plan for intensive visual surveys (at least 600 person-hours). An additional 200 traps and live baits from USGS arrived on Rota yesterday and are being deployed around the port area and further inland to supplement existing traps.

USGS brown tree snake biologists from Guam are participating in these activities, and the effort is coordinated by the USGS Brown Tree Snake Rapid Response coordinator Adam Knox. The goal of the intensive detection effort is to determine whether the captured snake was a single stowaway or is part of new population of snakes on Rota. Scientists will assist the effort by using results of research in Guam to determine the amount of search effort required on Rota to achieve a high likelihood of detecting brown tree snakes should they be present on Rota.

"We encourage the people of Rota and other islands in the CNMI to cooperate with the searchers as they conduct their inspections and to report any BTS sightings. Please contact the Rota BTS Program at 287-ROTA, BTS Hotline at 28-SNAKE, CNMI DFW at (670) 664-6004, CNMI BTS Program (670) 664-6014 to report sightings of the brown treesnake," said Sylvan Igisomar, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service coordinator/biologist, assigned to the CNMI BTS Program. ***(USFWS)***

ENOUGH

From Page 1

current projects.

The three schools led utilities costs among the Public School System's locations and schools, according to data presented by Derek Sasamoto, PSS director of finance and budget, who pointed to suspected water leaks as the cause.

MHS leads with 27 percent of total PSS costs, Hopwood is at 13 percent, and Tanapag is at 6 percent of total costs.

Saipan Tribune interviewed the principals of these three schools on their current cost-cutting measures and water leak and maintenance issues, with all three expressing the need for more locals funds for support services.

'Do we have the money?'

In an interview, Hopwood principal Jonas Barcinas lamented a lack of funds to shore up deficiencies at the Hopwood campus, adding that the government "is not really taking care of business in terms of prioritizing education."

"In order for us to really elevate the learning, the school facilities need to be safe and conducive for the kids," he said.

He pointed at termite-infestation as one problem the school faces.

"None of the government leaders have ever come over here and said, 'Jonas, can I see your building? Let's help you out.' Nothing," he said.

Barcinas said it was tough for him to solve the water-leak issue, which he blames for most of their utility costs as their use of power is "very little" compared to water.

"This school is maybe 61, 62 years old. All these pipes have been built many years. Think of all the trees that went through the pipes, it might have… bent them, moved them. There has got to be leaks somewhere."

He suggested the notion of building a new school as renovations would cost millions.

"Why renovate the school when [it will] cost a million dollars? It's best just to build a new school. [Hopwood] is a great community, it [has a] great staff and is a great place for the kids. It's just the facility is too old," he said.

He wishes CUC experts would visit and advise the school on the matter and test for leaks, but noted "we are not about to pay for those things."

"If they fix the leak, great. But if it's going to cost breaking things down, fixing, trying to get the leak [fixed] for a big cost, then that's something that the Board [of Education], the commissioner, everyone needs to think about: Do we have money for those things?" he said.

He said the school has been doing its best to conserve power. "When I say we only have four hours of air-conditioning and all power must be shut off here and there, we adhere to that," Barcinas said.

According to him, the four hours of AC starts at 8am, and is staggered throughout the day.

"We don't want to increase our power [bill] because the government is not paying CUC on time. They're not giving us the money we need in order for us to take care of business," he said, citing the larger issue of locally appropriated budget for utilities, personnel, and other support services.

Always an issue

"Maintenance is always going to be an issue," said Ruth Calvo, principal of Tanapag Middle School. "Not just for this school but for every school. That's why we're telling people to please support H.L.I. 18-12," Calvo said.

House Legislative Initiative 18-12, which is on the ballot in November, seeks to raise the minimum percentage of local appropriations for PSS from 15 percent to 25 percent of the government's budget.

Calvo said AC does not kick in at their main office until 11:30am, with the AC in her office only used during conferences or meetings, adding that these conservative measure have taken effect system-wide.

"If somebody's not in the office, they just turn [the AC] off. [We do] anything that we can to cut costs," she said.

"We only have one [maintenance person]," she said, noting that in order "to maintain something, you also have to pay for it."

She believes maintenance is always going to be an issue with schools, pointing to TMS' yard as one area that's difficult to maintain as it has a lot of mud and grass.

However, she prefers to remain optimistic. "I'm confident that with time we will have all those issues addressed," she said.

She said the PSS Capital Improvement Office has helped TMS with bathroom renovations, and noted that they are helping TMS search for and take care of their water leaks.

'One man for a 1,560-student campus'

Cabrera said MHS uses the AC for just five hours a day, with AC not used until 9am even as class starts at 8:30am and ACs turned off during lunch.

On water leaks, she said the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has worked on the problem during July and August this summer.

She pointed the water leaks were behind the "exorbitant" amount of their utility costs.

"[CUC] was on our campus, digging holes everywhere, looking for leaks and fixing [them]," she said.

She said the water leak issue has been solved.

Cabrera believes that MHS needs a staff of three—at least—to maintain their school.

"[We have] one maintenance staff for a school that has 50 classrooms, a gym, a cafeteria. …Our campus is huge [for just one maintenance person]," she said.

According to Cabrera, Emory Fitial collects trash, repairs equipment and facilities, as well as does grass-cutting and tree-trimming.

She noted that it takes almost a week to get the grass cut on campus.

She is pushing for H.L.I. 18-20, noting that it may provide more funds for the school's support services as federal funds cannot "buy desks, fix broken toilers, or pay for maintenance staff."

"Those critical areas are not funded," she said.

She noted that the local budget must also cover CUC costs, so as not to drain funds intended for personnel.

"What suffers is our building maintenance, our ground maintenance," she said, adding that PSS as a system has had to do "more with less."

She pointed at how the community and parent volunteers at the school.

"Without these volunteers it'd be very difficult just to do our daily operations," she said.

According to her, MHS has four volunteers who currently help with maintenance around the school; some of them are former students.

Grounded cargo vessel is pulled safely to port

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Paul Russ, the cargo vessel that ran aground last week, sat safely with no reported damage at the Saipan seaport last Thursday night after being towed from the reef by tugboats belonging to the vessel's representatives.

Captain James B. Pruett, U.S. Coast Guard Guam sector commander, called it a "successful effort" made possible through the cooperation of the vessel representatives, the government of the CNMI, and the Coast Guard.

He said the weather was cooperative during their operation.

With the boat in harbor, the Saipan seaport is now open, he said. Previously it had been closed due to unexploded ordnance found near the ship on Wednesday.

The previous 500-yard safety zone that limited vessels coming and leaving the port was reduced to a 250-yard zone on Friday, with all vessel passing required to go at slow speeds with no wake, according to Pruett.

He thanked the CNMI government and vessel representative for a "job done fast and a job done right."

The successful efforts concluded three days' worth of on-land and at-sea operations that began with the *Russ*' grounding last Tuesday morning.

Led by the U.S. Coast Guard, the CNMI Department of Homeland Security, and vessel representatives, efforts were coordinated at a unified command post at the Commonwealth Ports Authority office, with CPA, the Department of Public Safety involved as well.

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality and the Division of Fish and Wildlife were the regulatory agencies involved to assess impact on marine and aquatic life.

Friday night's effort was given the go-signal at the recommendation of the U.S. Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal team who did underwater assessment that day.

Poor weather conditions predicted that night pushed the operation forward, according to Marvin Seman, special assistant for the CNMI Department of Homeland Security.

As Seman predicted in an interview Friday, the unexploded ordnance did not prove to be a problem during the operation.

Both Pruett and Seman indicated the boat would be inspected at the harbor to gauge its stability.

Breach of protocol claimed over crew's entry to Saipan

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CNMI Customs Services Division director Joe Mafnas raised concern over what he described as a "breach of protocol" when the 17-person crew of the grounded cargo vessel *Paul Russ* were allowed entry into Saipan last week without going through mandatory customs inspections and without filling out local customs form.

"When a decision was made to take the crew off the ship, CNMI Customs should have been contacted. …Part of the CNMI Customs responsibility by law is to clear all passengers, crew, cargo disembarking from ports if they are from outside the CNMI. In the case of the *Paul Russ* crew, 17 of them, the shipping agent didn't notify us that the crew will be disembarking from the grounded ship so we can be there to process them. That was only around 5:30pm Thursday," Mafnas told *Saipan Tribune*.

The Customs director said the division only learned about the vessel crew's disembarkation after the fact.

"The shipping agent should have let us known. As the local customs agency, we're responsible for customs inspections, to help make sure no contraband gets in," Mafnas said.

The shipping agent, it was later known, is CTSI.

Mafnas and a CTSI official separately confirmed a meeting today to discuss the incident.

On Thursday night, the U.S Coast Guard, the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management Office, and other entities successfully pulled out *Paul Russ* from the reef, two days after it was grounded. Unexploded ordnance, believed to be remnants from World War II, were also found behind and next to the grounded vessel.

Inos says no request yet for casino deal amendment over sites

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos acknowledged Thursday Best Sunshine International Ltd.'s ongoing efforts to find locations for its $3.14-billion integrated casino resort on Saipan, but said there is no request yet to amend the casino license agreement over development sites.

The casino license agreement allows Best Sunshine to use up to three development sites, knowing that finding extensive land with access to a good quality beach for an integrated casino resort is a challenge.

Under the agreement, the governor may increase the number of casino development sites if Best Sunshine requests so if the developer and the CNMI government are "unable to identify adequate suitable sites," among other things.

"They're still trying to select some sites right now," the governor said in an interview at the signing of a proclamation yesterday declaring Sept. 14 to 20 "Child Passenger Week."

He added that Best Sunshine has not requested "to make the adjustment but that's part of the understanding."

Best Sunshine is requesting the Department of Public Lands to allow them to lease the Marpi site where Kan Pacific's Mariana Resort & Spa is currently located.

Mariana Resort's lease expires in April 2018 but it is also asking the government to allow them to have a new lease.

The governor said the government has invited Mariana Resort "to the table and that's been the process."

"We wrote them a letter saying your lease is coming up, things like that, tell us what your plans are, come in and talk to us," he said, adding that this is also the same with other hotels with expiring public land leases.

The CNMI, under the casino license agreement, "agrees to actively assist the licensee in efforts to secure suitable property for the required land." DPL has been assisting Best Sunshine in finding a suitable land.

Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) said Thursday that DPL could offer Best Sunshine the nearly 10 hectares of public lands also in Marpi that Tan Holdings earlier withdrew from and was later on offered to E Land's Micronesia Resort Inc.

Leon Guerrero said he, too, doesn't want to see Mariana Resort forced out of its hotel property. He said the CNMI can both have Mariana Resort and Best Sunshine, instead of forcing one out of business.

Kan Pacific/Mariana Resort is one of the only few remaining major Japanese investments in the CNMI. It said the Japan market should not be disregarded. It should be preserved and cultivated, adding that China and Russian markets are dependent on the visa waiver program, "which can be changed or ended at any time by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security."

BEST SUNSHINE INTERNATIONAL

www.bestsunshineint.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Best Sunshine would like to establish a pool of applicants for the following positions:

1. **Human Resources Supervisor**
   Administers various human resource plans and procedures for all company personnel. Assists in developing and implementing of personnel policies and procedures. Assist in preparing and maintaining employee handbook and policies and procedures manual. Administers compensation program, monitors performance evaluation program, verifies job description, and revises as necessary. Prepare and process foreign workers work permit such as CW-1, H1, J1, and other applicable visas.
2. **Human Resources Assistant**
   Assist in processing, verifying, and maintaining personnel related documentation, including staffing. Recruitment, training, grievances, performance evaluations, classifications and employee leaves of absence. Explaining company personnel policies, benefits, and procedures to employees or job applicants in the absence of the HR Supervisor. Prepare and process foreign workers work permit such as CW-1, H1, J1, and other applicable visas.

Local language ability is an advantage. Salary is $7.50/hour or above which is commensurate with experience and education. For job description, application form, and more information, please email: hr@bestsunshine.com. Detailed resume will be required with submission of application. Background check may be required before employment.

Thank you, Si Yu'os ma'ase' and Olomwaay for your interest in Best Sunshine!

BEST SUNSHINE International

Palacios warn WH of impacts of expanding marine monument

Department of Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Arnold Palacios, fulfilling his duties as chair of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, took time off the campaign trail this week to travel to Washington, D.C., to express his opposition to the proposed expansion of the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument. President Barack Obama's proposal would ban Pacific fishermen from the waters surrounding several Pacific islands and atolls, which currently serve as key fishing grounds for the Western Pacific fleet.

Accompanied by a delegation of officials and stakeholders from across the Pacific, Palacios met Tuesday in the Roosevelt Room of the West Wing with ranking officials from the White House Council on Environmental Quality—including Counselor to the President John Podesta—to discuss the negative ramifications of Obama's proposal.

Palacios

Palacios summed up the delegation's concerns when he noted that "the current proposal is destined to fail our fishermen and environment."

Specifically, the delegation warned that the Monument expansion would unduly penalize and disadvantage regional fishermen that already abide by some of the strictest regulations and the most sustainable management in the Pacific. Without access to traditional fishing grounds, Pacific fishermen will see the cost of fishing rise, as they will be forced to rely increasingly on fishing farther out on the high seas, or in the waters of foreign countries that are looking to increase the fees they charge for access. It would deny the fleet a key amount of flexibility to cope with the effects of climate change, threaten the fishing and fishing-related businesses of the Western Pacific, and increase the nation's already heavy reliance on imported seafood.

Environmentally, the delegation contended that an expansion of the Monument would do little to improve on the conservation measures already in place. Critical habitats are already under protection, and the highly migratory fish such as tuna that travel through these areas do not spend enough time in them for a closure of the area to benefit their populations in any meaningful way.

The meeting was an opportunity for officials at the White House to finally hear in person from those who are most directly affected by the President's proposal. Since its announcement almost three months ago, federal officials had previously have only held one public forum on the proposal, in Honolulu. ***(DLNR)***

CUC updates its non-rate fees

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@gmail.com
REPORTER

Non-rate fees for public utilities are now available on the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. website, according to CUC executive director Alan Fletcher.

These non-rate fees are for specific purposes and only apply to customers who specifically request the services or violate public utility laws.

"All of CUC's rates and fee schedules are posted on the website and now have been updated to include the newest changes," Fletcher said.

He said these non-rate fees are intended to recover the cost of these specific services.

"When customers request these special services, CUC incurs cost in fulfilling the request. CUC had a choice to make as far as how to recover these costs. We could have either broken out the costs so that our customers only pay for the services they actually use, or we could have just taken the average of all the costs and asked that all customers pay a share of it," he said.

Fletcher said they deemed it fair to only charge these non-rate fees on those who are requesting for these special services.

"Because there are some customers who require excessive services, which are then subsidized by other ratepayers, CUC believed it would be fairer to all customers for the cost of burden of this extra work to be borne by those who require extra services," he said.

According to Fletcher, these non-rate fees have not been reviewed or adjusted for many years. Each of the non-rate fees factor into the overall cost of each service provided.

These new non-rate fees have already been approved by the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission.

Non-rate fees

One non-rate fee is a $550 penalty for unauthorized connection. There is also a new $220 fee for reconnection to the pole. These fees only apply to unauthorized or illegal connections to the CUC grid.

"These fees are significant due to the sizeable level of effort required to reconnect the power as well as to ensure the safety of the crews who must do this difficult work. CUC also believes this will help to discourage further unauthorized usage," Fletcher said.

One other fee is for inspections. After two free inspections, any additional inspections by CUC will be charged $210.

Another fee is CUC's existing 1 percent late charge. This remains as a late charge for power, wastewater, and water utilities.

"Customers may be asking themselves how do these new non-rate fees impact me. But it will not affect the customers who follow the rules. Similarly, CUC already provides two free investigations."

For more information on CUC's fees and non-rate fees, visit CUC's website at www.cucgov.org/rates/.

RESIDENTIAL, GOVERNMENT & BUSINESS
DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its **RESIDENTIAL, GOVERNMENT & BUSINESS** customers that current billing of accounts are due on or before **Monday, September 22**. Payments not received by close of business on **Sept 22** will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00PM on that day.

To prevent temporary suspension, customers are hereby advised to kindly pay their bills on or before **Monday, September 22**. Disputed billings must be brought to IT&E's attention in person or in writing by **Monday, September 22**. Customers must pay any current amount due, to avoid disconnection.

If you have questions regarding billing or services please call Customer Service at 682-4ITE (4483) or visit our Customer Service or Business Sales Center – Middle Road, Chalan Laolao.

IT&E Life in Motion

To avoid disconnection you may pay your IT&E bill at any location below:

SHELL Service Stations – up to 4:00pm
Chalan Laulau – up to 5:00pm
Tinian/Rota Office - up to 4:30pm
Online payment – up to 9:00pm

Customs wants to become region's K9 training center anew

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Work is now underway to make the CNMI's Customs Services Division become a drug-detector dog training center in the region once again, according to Customs director Joe Mafnas.

Mafnas said this as Customs held a mock demonstration at the airport on Friday to show how two of its three new drug-detector dogs, with their handlers, sniff through arriving passengers and luggage for illegal drugs.

"We've done it before, we can do it again," Mafnas told *Saipan Tribune*. "But I would like to point out that we need to take care of the CNMI's needs first, before opening it up to other areas that also need training."

Mafnas, who revived the K9 program last year upon his reappointment as Customs director, said once the program is able to meet all the expectations to meet local needs, then it will start accepting K9 and handler training applications from American Samoa, Guam, and other island territories, just like years back.

The CNMI Customs' Pacific Region Detector Dog Training Center was once touted as a "model" in the Pacific.

On Friday, Customs Lt. Jesse Atalig, the only certified senior instructor for drug-detector dog handling in the CNMI, led a mock demonstration of how drug-detector dogs and their handlers check arriving passengers and their luggage.

The demonstration showcasing two of three new drug-detector dogs was supposed to be for Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson but they were not able to show up because of meetings on Capital Hill. Customs, however, proceeded with the scheduled mock demonstration for the media.

The mock demonstration showed Customs detector dog specialist John Pangelinan with a 16-month-old Labrador named "Ben" going through a customs lineup of passengers and their luggage.

Another demonstration involved drug-detector dog specialist Nokki Saralu with 14-month-old Labrador named "Charlie."

Both dogs were able to point to their handlers the passengers/luggage with the illegal drug "ice."

Pangelinan said "Ben" is the second K9 he has closely worked with, as Customs replaced three of its aging drug-detector dogs.

"When you train and work with different dogs, you become a much better handler. And these new dogs are much younger than the ones we used to have," Pangelinan said.

Two of the new dogs arrived weeks back, while the third one arrived on Saipan only last week from Florida.

Each dog costs about $10,000, including shipment to Saipan.

"We are looking at acquiring more dogs for the Saipan operations," Mafnas said.

Customs' drug-detector dogs are used not only at the Saipan airport, but also at the seaport and the post office.

Mafnas said the dogs also assist the Department of Public Safety and other local and federal law enforcement agencies.

The CNMI Customs K9 Unit was idled for over a year starting in June 2012 due to lack of funds and of certified drug-detector dog handlers. When the governor brought Mafnas back to Customs, the latter revived the K9 Unit in 2013. A year after the program's revival, it replaced its three aging dogs with younger ones to further beef up border security.

Probable cause found to charge 3 suspects in copper wire theft

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has found probable cause to warrant the filing of charges against three of four suspects arrested in the act of burglarizing the former Koreana Hotel in Chalan Kanoa and stealing copper wires.

At a preliminary hearing last week, Camacho found probable cause that the crimes of burglary, attempted theft, conspiracy to commit burglary and theft, and criminal mischief were committed and that the persons who may have committed the offenses are Patrick Pangelinan Mendiola, Jonathan Taitano Blas, and Nelson Atalig Ramon.

At the hearing, Mendiola, Blas, and Ramon appeared with their respective court-appointed counsels: Michael A. White, Bruce Berline, and Chief Public Defender Douglas Hartig. Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas appeared for the government.

Arraignment will be on Sept. 22 at 9am.

After the hearing, the three defendants were remanded into the custody of the Department of Corrections. They are being held on a $20,000 cash bail each.

The preliminary hearing for defendant Jose Taitano Blas did not push through as he has yet to be served with a penal summons. Jose Blas reportedly cooperated in the investigation.

Members of the Department of Public Safety's Charlie Shift Patrol Unit responded to the former Koreana Hotel on Aug. 23, 2014, at 3:42am, after receiving a call from a woman about a burglary in progress.

The officers caught at the scene the four suspects as they were exiting a small window in the generator room of the former hotel. Police recovered from the suspects large copper wires that were cut and rolled into bundles about 50 to 100 feet.

It was allegedly Ramon's idea to steal copper wires from the establishment. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

UH student dies after jumping over rail

By GREGG K. KAKESAKO
HONOLULU STAR ADVERTISER

An 18-year-old University of Hawaii-Manoa student died Tuesday night after injuring himself jumping over a rail behind Gateway House dormitory.

The Medical Examiner's office identified the student as Abel Pellegrino.

Sarah Rice, spokeswoman for the Manoa campus Department of Public Safety, said students reported the incident, which police said occurred at 8:19pm. Paramedics took Pellegrino in critical condition to the hospital, where he died.

Paramedics at the scene were told by witnesses that the student apparently jumped and fell about 40 feet.

Police have classified the case as an unattended death, pending the results of an autopsy, which the medical examiner's office said could take a couple of weeks.

The university's student newspaper said the victim was a disc jockey for KTUH.

"I trained him myself, and I can say that he's one of those trainees that I knew would go on to do great things at KTUH," Paige Okamura, general manager at KTUH, told the Ka Leo O Hawaii Thursday. "He was so eager to learn and grow and discover new music."

According to a profile of Pellegrino published in the *Saipan Tribune* in May, he was a 2013 graduate of Saipan International School who planned to major in audio engineering.

The profile said Pellegrino's passion for music began when he was 12 when he learned to play guitar.

While on Saipan, the newspaper said Pellegrino used to put on shows for tourists for two years on cruises to Managahan Island on weekends.

BIRTHDAYS HOUTOUT

A special happy 3rd birthday greeting goes out to Kai'po Francisco Camacho! May you have an awesome day filled with joy, laughter, and fun! Enjoy all the shower of gifts and love that has and will come your way today and forever. God bless and we love you. Greetings coming out from Nino, Nina and Shalei. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan residents 'never forget' 9/11 tragedy

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

PHOTOS BY THOMAS A. MANGLONA II

Members of the CNMI Medical Reserve Corp. pose for a photo in front of Garapan Fire Station 2 after the Freedom Walk in commemoration of 9/11 last Thursday.

Island residents and tourists occupied the streets of Garapan last Thursday as part of the Freedom Walk from the Garapan Fishing Base to the Garapan Fire Station 2 to honor the thousands of lives lost in the terror attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The walk also marked the 13th anniversary of the tragedy that killed nearly 3,000 people in New York, Washington, D.C., and western Pennsylvania.

The CNMI Bikers Association, Ttransportation Security Adiminstration, CNMI Guardians, Public School System, Community Emergency Response Center, Mount Carmel School, and the CNMI Medical Reserve Corp. joined several public officials march down Garapan while countless tourists lined the streets to take photos.

"Thirteen years ago today, deliberate and atrocious acts affected us all," Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider said in his opening remarks. "Most of us remember where we were and what we were doing on Sept. 11. Images of that fateful day are forever engraved in our minds. We come together with our fellow citizens in the spirit of patriotism and remind ourselves to never forget."

A member of the organization known as the CNMI Guardians told *Saipan Tribune* that the events of 9/11 did not only change airport security, but America all together. "We still have people fighting the fight to prevent further terror attacks in order for us to enjoy freedom today," she added.

Lance Deleon Guerrero, a junior Mount Carmel student, said, "Even though I was only a toddler during the tragic event, I feel for everyone who is affected even more than a decade later."

For one member of the CNMI Medical Reserve Corps, Thursday's march was personal. "In 2001 a lot of the responders wanted to come and help but they did not know how to respond to such a chaotic situation. …After 9/11 we formed the Medical Corps and learn how to respond to major disasters. This is how we commemorate all the fallen people of 9/11 and we continuously do that on a daily basis now."

Police cars and fire trucks sounded their sirens for 13 seconds to conclude the event, symbolizing the 13th year since the terror attacks.

Members of the Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Battalion lead the community during last Thursday's Freedom Walk in commemoration of 9/11.

JROTC members of the Saipan Southern High School Battalion lead members of the community in the posting of colors during last Thursday's 9/11 Freedom Walk in Garapan.

Military veterans salute during the U.S and CNMI anthems.

Residents watching hundreds of community members march down the streets of Garapan as a part of the 9/11Freedom Walk on Thursday wave the American Flag in honor of the lives lost in the terror attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

CERT vehicles follow the crowd of marching community members during the 9/11 Freedom Walk last Thursday.

Police cars and fire trucks sound their sirens for 13 seconds to conclude the event, symbolizing the 13th year since the terror attacks.

TITLE SPONSOR

With its donation of $1,000 and two phones, IT&E recently became a Title Sponsor of the Green Gala, the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance's signature fundraising event. The event raises critical funds for important environmental and conservation projects and activities. The Gala will be held on Friday, Sept. 19, 2014, at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan. Tickets are on sale for $50 can be purchase on the MINA website at www.minapacific.org or by calling 233-REEF. In the photo: MINA directors and staff accept the donation from IT&E representatives.

GREG MORETTI/MINA

NEWS BRIEFS

MHS sets College Fair tomorrow

Marianas High School will be hosting a College Fair tomorrow, Sept. 16, 2014, at the MHS Gymnasium. MHS students will be entertained from 10:30am to 12:40pm. The fair will then be open to the public from 4pm to 7pm.

Colleges include Stanford University (brochures only, no representative), University of Portland, Fairleigh Dickenson College, Waseda University, Linfield College, Nagoya University, University of Pennsylvania, Loyola Marymount University, Chamindae University, University of Guam, Temple University of Japan, University of Hawaii Manoa, Ritsumeikan University, Linfield College, Northern Marianas College, College Access Challenge Grant, and the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education. ***(MHS)***

A. Samoa hotel pays $21K in back wages

American Samoa-based Dateline Industries Inc., doing business as Sadie's Hotels, has agreed to pay $21,314 in back wages to 89 hotel and restaurant employees. Wage and Hour Division investigators found that the employer improperly deducted costs for required uniforms, causing pay rates to fall below the applicable minimum wage of $4.50 per hour in American Samoa's hotel and restaurant industry. ***(USDOL)***

MHS PTA meeting on Wednesday

All Marianas High School parents, teachers and students are invited to attend the first PTA meeting for this school year on Wednesday Sept. 17, 2014. at 6:30pm in the MHS Dolphin Theatre. The meeting will include reports from the MHS administration and the MHS Student Council about their plans for the new school year as well as elections of 2014-2015 PTA officers. ***(MHS)***

Northern Marianas College
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 234-5498 ext. 6823/24 Fax: (670) 235-7601

INVITATION FOR BIDS

NMC IFB 14-002
NMC Air-Conditioning Project

Northern Marianas College is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the procurement and installation of high efficiency air–conditioning units for the As Terlaje Campus.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, commencing Monday, September 15, 2014 between the hours of 8: 30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m., As Terlaje Campus, Saipan.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting and site inspection for interested person, firms and corporation will be held on September 24, 2014 at 9:00am, NMC Procurement Management Office, Bldg L, 2nd floor, conference room.

This procurement is 100% Federally Funded made available from the Office of Insular Affairs, Empowering Insular Communities Program.

In accordance with Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, Local Preference is not available to local businesses for this procurement.

Bid Packages are due no later than 10:00 a.m., October 16, 2014, at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950
For Bidders located outside of the CNMI: you may request a copy of the IFB via fax (670) 235-7601 or email to Anita Camacho (anita.camacho@marianas.edu).

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC.

Approved by the following:

/s/ Anita Camacho
NMC Procurement Manager

/s/ David J. Attao
Dean of Administration and
Resource Development

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Opinion

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EDITORIAL

Remember 9/11 responders

The horror of 9/11 has echoed ominously this week upon the 13th anniversary of that attack as the nation once again responds to a virulent terrorist threat. This time the enemy is the Islamic State group that recently beheaded two American journalists.

President Barack Obama sounded a call to arms Wednesday night, seeking public support for an American-led international effort to aggressively combat the radical group, also known as ISIS, that has taken territory so brutally in southern Syria and northern Iraq.

But even with the nation's attention riveted on that new challenge, those who responded selflessly after 9/11 must not be forgotten, especially the 30,000 responders and volunteers who got sick after being exposed to toxins in the tangle of remains and debris at Ground Zero.

About 16,500 of them have submitted claims to the $2.775-billion September 11th Victim Compensation Fund. According to a report fund administrators released Tuesday, 1,843 awards have been made. Fortunately, the pace has picked up in recent months. The need is urgent for many of the sick and the families of those who've died.

But the programs created in 2010 under the James L. Zadroga 9/11 Health & Compensation Act will expire soon—the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund in October 2016, and the World Trade Center Health Program, which monitors and treats responders, in October 2015. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, Rep. Peter King and others in Congress from New York have started the push to reauthorize the programs for 25 years.

The health of 60,000 responders is being monitored. The need isn't going away. Neither should the programs established to help those who develop a host of chronic respiratory illnesses and cancers. Many victims can't work and have exhausted their savings.

We should continue to meet the medical and financial needs of those early casualties of the war with terrorists even as the nation's focus shifts, as it must, to confronting the latest terrorist challenge.

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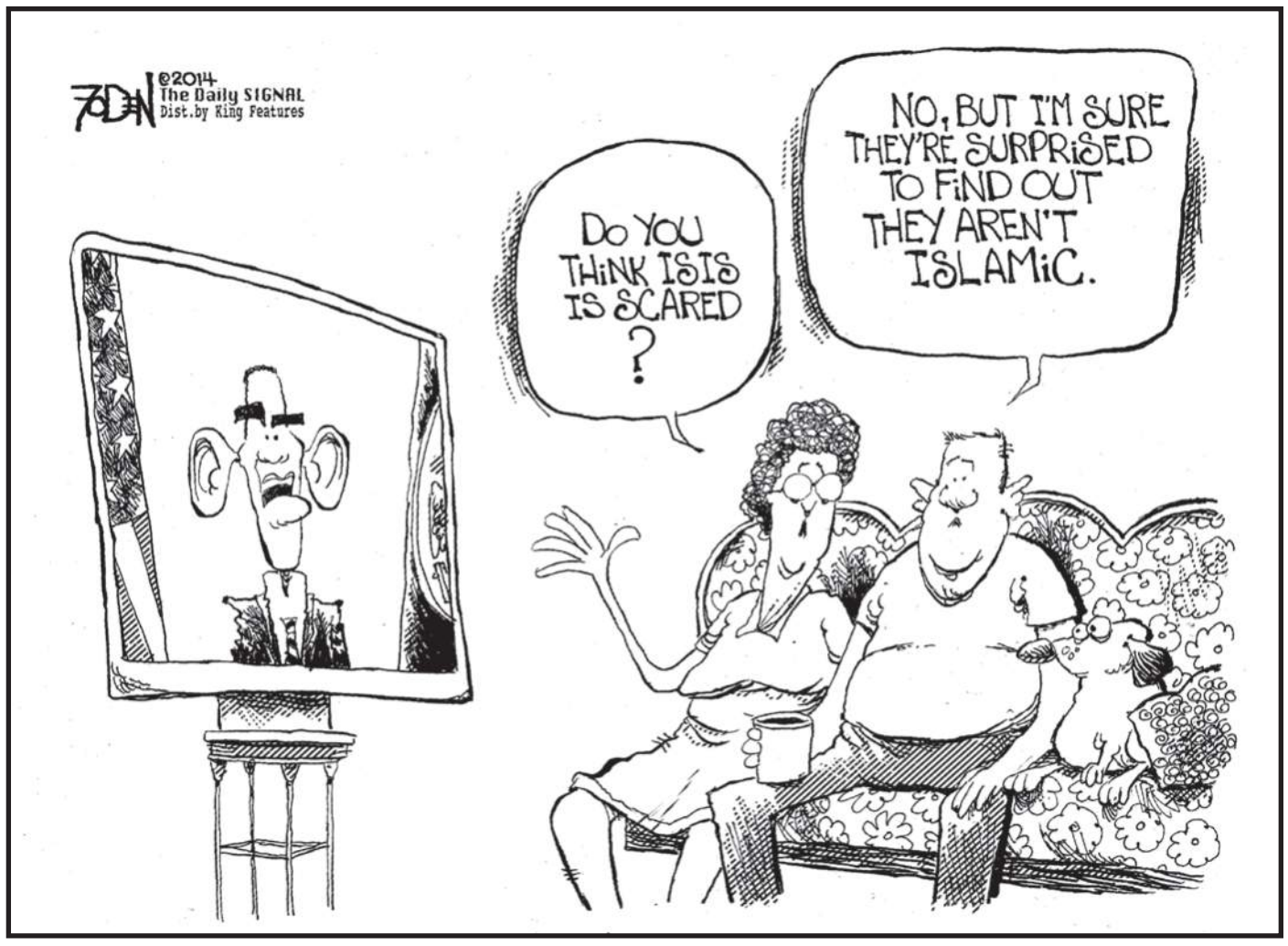
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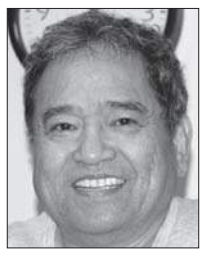
DO YOU THINK ISIS IS SCARED ?
NO, BUT I'M SURE THEY'RE SURPRISED TO FIND OUT THEY AREN'T ISLAMIC.

Debate and dialogue

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



Readers of this paper seemed to have experienced Gary DuBrall as incessantly railing against the darker side of things "native and local" (e.g., Micronesians do not plan) that I thought (many did, too) contained many truths. His stance, not surprisingly, roughed up a few feathers.

I read him more as that of a debater, a denizen much encouraged on island where we train our young in the art of debating, if not the instinct to attack the jugular in order to win up on stage against less confrontational "contestants." In fact, debates are often described as gladiatorial contests rather than a discourse to enlighten an audience over an issue. The West considers debate as meaningful exchange to define ideas to a point where a divide is clearly delineated and one chooses either to be "pro" or "con."

Some of us who grew up in the Protestant tradition of Christianity were particularly spoonfed with the feistiness of the Luther-Calvin-Zwingli-Knox-Asbury traditions where the ability to engage the magisterium of the holy Roman Church into heavy contentious debate was the norm rather than the exception. We were trained to go after the jugular against the Papists even after the Vatican II opened up the fresh world of *oikumene*. Some of my warm-hearted brethren will break bread with the Episcopalians but will enter the shades of the CK cathedral only at a friend's funeral.

The debate practice was carried into the niceties of English parliament where one was allowed to be sarcastic to another as long as one was funny in the doing or was indirect in the process, be gentlemanly, as it were. Pinoys are Asian masters of indirection *(mag-padaplis)*, with an oft-quoted local saying, *Bato-bato sa langit, ang tamaan, huwag magagalit,* ("If the shoe fits, wear it," though the saying is less blunt and literally means, "Stones in the sky, whoever is hit would please not be angry").

Gary decided to retire to the calmer waves of Waikiki in spite of having relations on island; at 75 years old, I can understand the impatience with impertinence and spineless sloppy thoughts. It is in the nature of debates that conflicts ensue. My take for the moment is on the form of discourse. Given what we now know about knowledge, airing out thoughts does not constitute disagreements; only differences of opinions, ideas and perspectives. It is in "doing" that a "resolve" is debatable, and even then, decisions need not be combative.

CCTV's Dialogue in China is a program that airs twice daily where the anchor hosts a guest or two to discuss a relevant subject. The program promotes that "ideas matter." Fair enough. Cognitive knowledge is after all the cornerstone of European meta-think and Western education. There are not many English shows in China, and save for CCTV sponsored by the government, there are not many choices unless one has cable, which may carry programs from Singapore, Hong Kong, and other countries.

It is possible that the producers of the CCTV Dialogue program have "debate" in mind because in most instances, they prod their guests to an "either/or" position, culturally foreign to the Chinese setting that is clearly "and/both" in its *yin-yang* characteristic that avoids conflict to keep "face." Confrontational as befitting its Western role models, the program in English looks like it decided on the "compare and contrast" method that leads to unavoidable polarized positions.

Debate on Eton's fields was cricket where conflict is decided by the bat, the thrown ball, and the skill of the batter, with all the language of combat involved on the reality of play and game. *"De-ba-te"* in Philippine politics when I was growing up was a matter of honor, often resulting in life-and-death situation when grudge turns into violent vengeance. The question of honor, Sicilian in origin through Italy and Spain, resulted in many tears, like what the young Ferdinand Marcos was accused of causing when the elected Nalundasan ridiculed Marcos' father after bettering him in the polls.

We see this debate spirit at work in the EU's strident application of sanctions on Russia where EU's new security officer justified it as simply applying pressure. "Sanctions is strategy," she said, to gain negotiating advantage. Whoa! Does the lady ever read history? I mean, groups of people with armed forces do not play cricket on the fields of Eton for strategic advantage? They drive their tanks to the border!

EU measures everyone by the value of the euro, supported by a worldwide Wall Street, managed by global corporate powers, but not all economies operate out of market values. In some quarters, "honor and integrity" and the promotion of indirection through "fashionable façades» are virtues of power that move human souls. These are priceless, though not always sane and reasonable, and unmeasurable by the euro and U.S. dollar value scales!

Debate hones wit and glibness; dialogue talks the language of the heart. We reserve an extra seat for anyone inclined to dialogue. Got time?

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Improved flight connectivity could spur tourism and economic growth in the Pacific region

By MATTHIAS HELBLE and PAULO MUTUC
ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK INSTITUTE

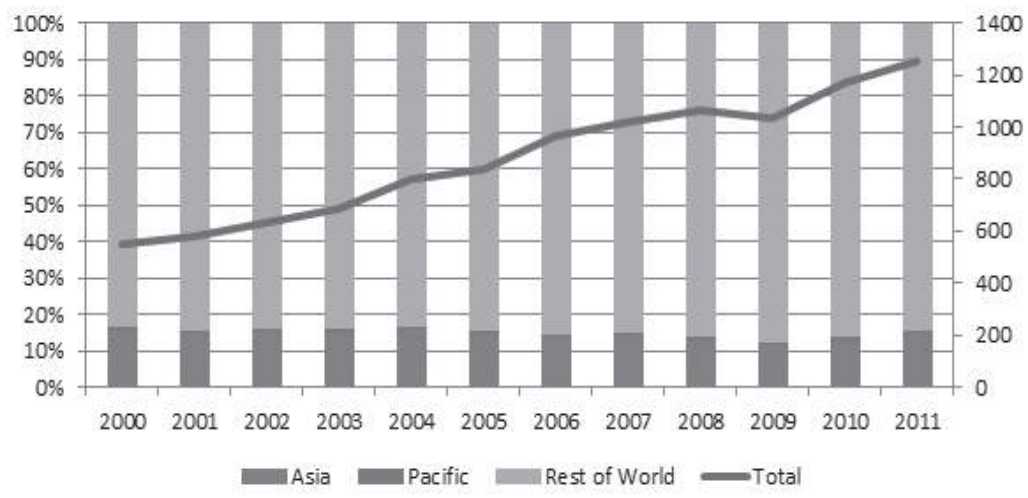
Tourism is one of the most promising growth sectors in the Pacific region. The number of tourist arrivals has more than doubled in the past decade, from around 600,000 in 2002 to 1.3 million ten years later. The potential for tourism in the Pacific is substantial as many islands offer unspoiled nature and scenic landscapes. However, travel to the Pacific can be inconvenient. There are only 35 direct flights from countries outside the Pacific to countries in the Pacific and the flight frequency is low. New research by ADBI shows that the number and frequency of direct flights is an important determinant on the number of tourist arrivals in the Pacific. The research also highlights that the potential of receiving large numbers of Asian tourists remains untapped. However, realizing the great potential of tourism will not only depend on better connectivity, but also on the capacity of Pacific region countries to respond to the growing demand.

Tourism in the Pacific on the rise

Tourism, like exports, contribute positively to economic growth and development in three important ways: First, international tourism, by exporting a service and facilitating the inflow of foreign currencies, helps a country pay for its imports and maintain foreign currency reserves. Second, tourism stimulates investments in infrastructure and human capital, which, in turn, creates jobs and increases incomes across a variety of industries.[1] Finally, growth of tourism may help to spur agricultural output used in the hospitality industry. These three channels, in turn, appear to be even more important for smaller countries, where tourism generally makes up larger portions of the domestic economy.

According to United Nations World Tourism Organization statistics, there were 1.5 million tourist arrivals in the Pacific region in 2013. Almost half of all foreign tourists in the Pacific were welcomed by Fiji in 2012. The next largest receiving countries were Papua New Guinea (12 percent), Samoa (10 percent), the Cook Islands (9 percent), and Palau (9 percent). The main sources of tourists were Australia (44 percent), New Zealand (22 percent), the United States (7 percent), Japan (4 percent), and Taipei, China (3 percent). Despite Asia's proximity, Asian tourists play a minor role in Pacific tourism (Figure 1), with their share dipping from 15 percent in 2000 to 14 percent in 2011. Nonetheless, the number of tourists from the People's Republic of China has surged, from 2,540 in 2000 to 35,426 in 2011.

Figure 1: Share (left vertical axis) and number of international tourist arrivals (right vertical axis) of Asian tourists (2000–2011)



Source: Authors' calculation based on UNWTO database on number of inbound tourists

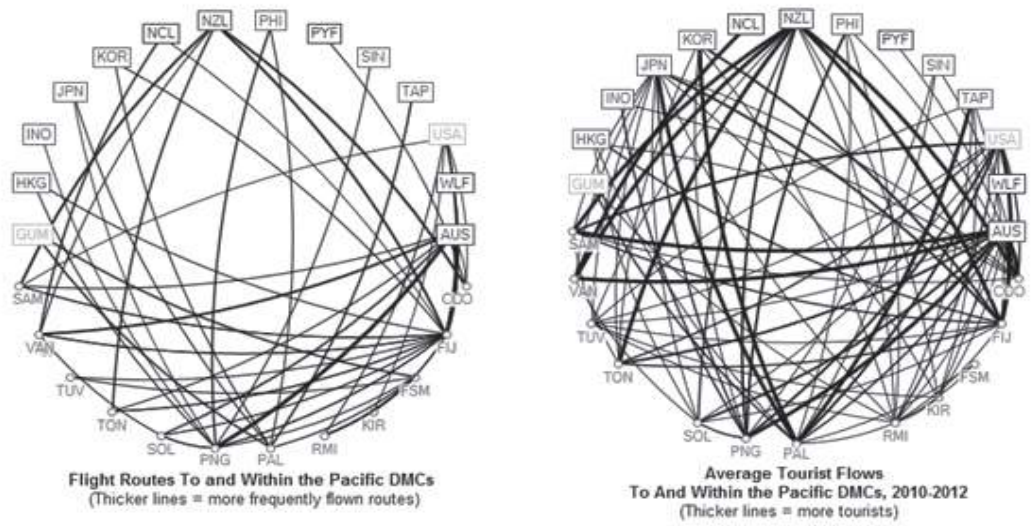
In the near future, Asia is expected to become a major source of tourist arrivals in the Pacific. The main drivers are a rapidly growing middle class in many Asian countries and their increasing demand for leisure travel. For the Pacific developing member countries, or DMCs, who are Asian Development Bank members, this development constitutes a great opportunity. Many Pacific DMCs have struggled to generate sustainable growth, mainly due to multiple structural constraints, such as their remoteness and small economic size. Tourism offers the possibility to overcome some of these constraints and transform some constraints, such as their remoteness, into positive assets. Many Pacific DMCs have high hopes of achieving sustained economic growth by tapping into Asia's dynamic tourism sector.

The untapped tourism potential

Given the remoteness of Pacific DMCs, flight connectivity is an important determinant of their capacity to welcome tourists. Improving flight connectivity can make the Pacific DMCs more accessible and feasible for many more international tourists, whose increased numbers would then spur income and infrastructure improvements in these countries. For example, in Peru—a developing country which international tourists, on average, fly about 5,500 kilometers to reach—it has been estimated that a percentage increase in the frequency of long-haul flights increases tourists arrivals by between 0.3 percent to 0.5 percent, with neighboring countries seeing comparable increases in their international tourist arrivals as well.[2]

New research by ADBI explores the determinants of tourism flows to the Pacific region by combining several data sources.[3] The node diagram to the left of Figure 2 depicts all the flight connections available within the Pacific region and with areas outside the region. Interestingly, out of the possible 168 flight connections between areas outside the Pacific region toward Pacific DMCs, only 35 are in place. (Between the Pacific DMCs, 28 out of 116 possible connections exist). The node diagram on the right of Figure 2 illustrates bilateral tourism flows. A comparison of the two diagrams shows that the flight connections only match a fraction of tourist flows to the Pacific DMCs, implying that many tourists to the Pacific region need to board more than one flight to reach their destination.

Figure 2: Node diagrams of direct flight connections and tourism flows between Asia and the Pacific and within the Pacific (2013)



Source: Flight routes from openflights.org; tourist flows from UNWTO. Note: Included in the diagram are areas that had at least one flight connection to one of the Pacific developing member countries.

ADBI's research highlights the potential for increased flight connectivity of the Pacific DMCs. Based on the information on direct flight connections, bilateral tourism flows and CEPII data, we developed a gravity model that can explain around 75 percent of all tourism flows to the Pacific. Our initial results show that geographical distance between the origin of tourists and their final destination is a major determinant for the number of tourist arrivals in the destination country. Furthermore, we find that colonial links play an important role in predicting the number of tourist arrivals. Interestingly, the estimation results show that countries with a direct flight link have more than twice as many visitors compared to countries without a direct flight link. Increasing the frequency of flights can also increase the number of tourist arrivals significantly. Because our focus is on the Pacific DMCs as a group and not on specific routes, our estimates represent the average effect of improved flight connectivity. Not every new flight connection will have the same effect on tourist arrivals. Some countries will gain more tourists than others because of closer ties with tourist-sending countries or better existing infrastructure. However, our results indicate that there is indeed massive potential for more tourists to the region.

One possible step to increase flight connectivity is to introduce and ensure competition in the transportation sector. Furthermore, in our estimates we have not taken explicitly into account the supply constraints of Pacific DMCs in welcoming more tourists. Realizing the promising economic opportunities that come with more tourists will certainly depend not only on better connectivity, but on creating economic conditions that facilitate more tourism. Apart from improving flight connectivity, governments in the Pacific DMCs can boost tourist arrivals by measures like simplified visa procedures (Arita et al. 2014).4

Most importantly, it is the capacity of Pacific DMCs to accommodate the increased demand for hotels, amenities, and other facilities that come with additional tourists that will determine how much they would benefit from the presence of more visitors from new flights to and within the region. While increasing flights to the Pacific DMCs would attract more tourists, substantial investments in infrastructure would be needed to ensure that any growth in tourism—and the economic benefits associated with it—would be sustained.

1 Brida, J. G., Cortes-Jimenez, I., and Pulina, M. 2013. Has the tourism-led growth hypothesis been validated? A literature review. Current Issues in Tourism. 1-37.

2 Tveteras, S. & Roll, K.H. (2014). Non-stop flights and tourist arrivals. Tourism Economics. Vol. 20. No.1. pp. 5-20(16).

3 Data on the number of tourists comes from bilateral tourism statistics provided by the UNWTO for the years 1995 to 2012. For geographical and cultural variables that link countries we rely on data from CEPII. Finally, we made use of a database containing information on all flight routes worldwide as of January 2012 (http://openflights.org/data.html).

4 Arita, S., la Croix, S., and Edmonds, C. 2014. The Effect of Approved Destination Status on Mainland Chinese Travel Abroad. Asian Economic Journal. Forthcoming.

References:

Helble M. 2014. The Pacific's Connectivity and Its Trade Implications. *ADBI Working Paper Series. No. 499*. Tokyo: Asian Development Bank Institute.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southeast winds 5 to 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

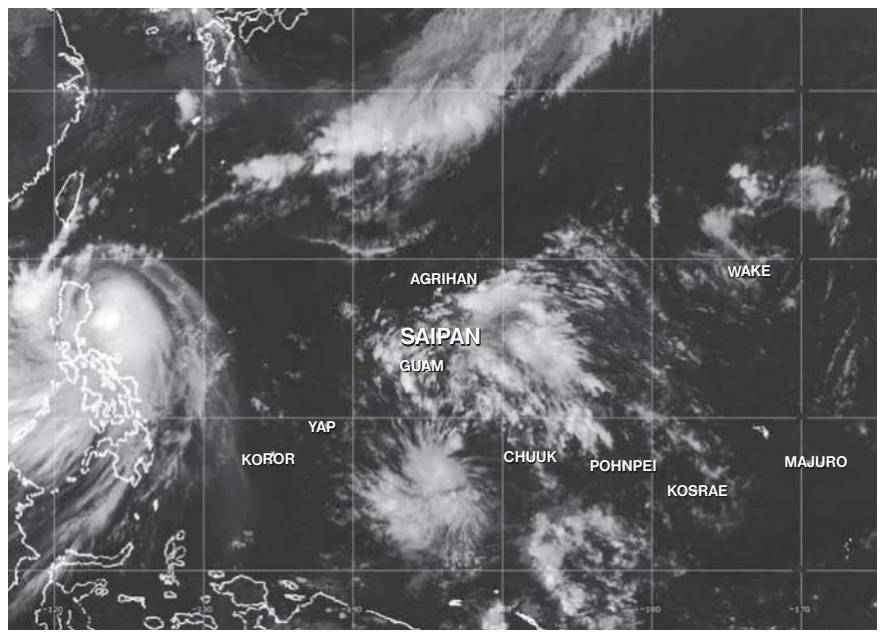
Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲82	▼79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼80
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼80
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼79
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼79
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼54
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲81	▼55
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲90	▼80
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼76
London	Showers	▲70	▼57
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲97	▼74
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼76
Melbourne	Showers	▲63	▼51
Miami	Thundershowers	▲86	▼78
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲72	▼56
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼67
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲77	▼58
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲78	▼67
Rome	Sunny	▲81	▼61
Salem	Sunny	▲93	▼57
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲69	▼58
Seoul	Cloudy	▲79	▼58
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲78	▼68
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲75	▼60

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2014
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough stretches east-southeastward from near Luzon through 15N130E and a broad circulation centered southeast of Guam near 11N147E to end northwest of Enewetak atoll at 12N160E. Divergent upper-level winds are triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near these features east of the Mariana Islands and north of Chuuk within 230 miles of a line from 19N150E to 9N154E. Similar conditions are also found south of the circulation between 1N and 9N from 142E to 149E. Isolated thunderstorms are seen over the Mariana Islands between 11N and 17N from 142E to 146E. Converging surface winds are causing scattered showers south of Chuuk and Pohnpei between the equator and 4N from 152E to 158E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

12:04 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
7:25 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
2:16 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
7:45 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:06 AM	6:19 PM
Tuesday	6:06 AM	6:18 PM
Wednesday	6:06 AM	6:17 PM
Thursday	6:06 AM	6:17 PM
Friday	6:06 AM	6:16 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:22 PM	11:38 AM
Tuesday		12:30 PM
Wednesday	12:12 AM	1:19 PM
Thursday	1:02 AM	2:05 PM
Friday	1:51 AM	2:49 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
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  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

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- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 28, 2014

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:30pm	4:10pm	6, 7 via Rota
UA5078	3:20pm	4:10pm	1, 5
UA5038	3:20pm	4:10pm	2, 4
UA5040	7:05pm	7:55pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:50pm	11:40pm	1, 5

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	2:30pm	3:05pm	6, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	3:35pm	4:10pm	6, 7

SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)

DL287	6:05am	11:15pm	2, 4, 6 via NRT

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

MU7076	4:15am	6:50am	2, 6
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764A	3:30am	7:30am	4, 7
MU764	4:00am	8:00am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/473	6:05am	9:45pm	1, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:30pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA5038/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	2 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	5 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM
D2 8009	12:50pm	4:05pm	Aug 5, 10, 14, 19, 24, 28
UA5039/179	2:30pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM
UA5078/179	3:20pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	1:10pm	2:00pm	6, 7
UA5038	1:10pm	2:50pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5077	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 5
UA5041	5:45pm	6:35pm	1, 5
UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5043	9:30pm	10:20pm	1, 5

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5038	1:10pm	1:45pm	2, 4

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5038	2:15pm	2:50pm	2, 4

PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN

DL298	4:30am	3:00pm	3, 5, 7 via NRT

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

MU7075	9:00pm	3:15am+1	1, 5
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763A	7:25pm	2:30am+1	3, 6
MU763	7:55pm	3:00am+1	4, 7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
DL172/288	7:55am	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5039	10:25pm	2:00pm+1	6 via GUM
UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	4, 7 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:35pm+1	4, 7 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM
UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:20pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5039	11:30pm	2:00pm+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
D28008	6:05pm	1:20am+1	Aug 5, 10, 14, 19, 24, 28
UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5039	9:55pm	2:00pm+1	5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5038	9:55pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways; ORB: OREN AIR; D2: Dynamic Air

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

Cyber Safety Pasifika brings Internet awareness to NMI

The CNMI Department of Public Safety recently rolled out the Cyber Safety Pasifika project in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project is aimed at protecting communities, children, youth, and other vulnerable people from the impact of cyber-crime. It is primarily an educational program with back up crime reporting and investigational support through Australia and New Zealand.

Cyber Safety Pasifika is collaboration between the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police Secretariat, Pacific Transnational Crime Network, and the High Tech Crime Operations, Crime Prevention team, of the Australian Federal Police.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

As part of the program, the PICP Secretariat provided CNMI DPS' Cyber Safety Pasifika program with a new Epson digital projector and projection screen to use during the awareness presentations.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Students from Kagman High School attend an Internet safety awareness presentation.

The Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police endorsed Cyber Safety Pasifika as a high priority police project at their meeting in Pohnpei in 2011, and it was launched in the Gold Coast, Australia, in 2012.

"These presentations equate to some 22,000 children and young people having been exposed to cyber safety awareness and presentations have been made to 800 community members since the program was launched in 2012," Federal Agent Melissa Northam (Australian Federal Police) stated about the launch.

DPS is very grateful to the PICP, the AFP and the presenters for coming to the CNMI to help with this very important project. In particular, DPS wishes to thank the delegates of the PICP for their support in getting the program delivered across the Pacific.

A two-person team from the Australian Federal Police High Tech Crime Operations and the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police Secretariat spent a hectic three days on Saipan, delivering a workshop to eight CNMI DPS officers. The group was also able to deliver awareness sessions to Marianas High School, Kagman High School, and ChaCha Ocean View Middle School.

Internet awareness sessions will begin to be a part of the local Cyber Safety Pasifika team and will roll out islandwide to all schools.

Further information regarding Cyber Safety Pasifika can be found at http://www.cybersafetypasifika.org. ***(DPS)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

CUC-RFEOI-14-020

Request for Expressions of Interest for Vegetation Line Clearing Services

(A Non-Binding, Informal Market Survey)

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director, requests "Expressions of Interest" (EOI) from qualified firms capable of providing supervision, labor, equipment, traffic control, debris removal and incidentals necessary to perform tree and brush cutting and removal service on various utility rights-of-way and utility lines in the CUC service territory.

The Request for Expressions of Interest is an exploratory project in order to survey market interest in Vegetation Line Clearing Services. It is not intended to be a formal or informal procurement process and CUC does not express or imply that any future procurement and/or acquisition process will occur, or that any preference will be given to those replying.

The CUC invites qualified firms to express their interest in performing the needed services. CUC will review all Expressions of Interests received, and based in part on these submittals, will decide on whether to outsource the Vegetation Line Clearing Services to private firms.

The CUC-RFEOI-14-020 Package will be e-mailed upon request to all interested firm, by the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, during working hours (7:30 AM to 4:30 PM), Monday thru Friday, except government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Four (4) copies must be submitted by hand or courier in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFEOI-14-020" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, Room No. 3, 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 14, 2014**. Late submission will not be considered.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 26, 2014** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Procurement & Supply Manager via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org, with a copy to Gary Camacho, Power Division T&D Manager via email address gary.camacho@cucgov.org. CUC will respond to questions and clarifications only to prospective Offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director

Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority

Office of the Governor
2nd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Bldg., Isa Drive, Capitol Hill
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96960
Tel. No. (670) 664-2682 (COTA) * Fax No. (670) 664-2692 *
Email: cota@gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT NO: 14-103

OPENING DATE: 09/10/14 **CLOSING DATE: 09/24/14**

POSITION AND SALARY: (1) Transit Operator (Bus/Van Driver)

Ungraded
$17,680.00 - $20,800.00 P/A

LOCATION: Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority,
Saipan Operations & Maintenance Section

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

Be willing to work split shifts and night shifts on a rotating basis. Have the ability to read, write and communicate effectively in English. Successfully complete the Customer Service and Driving video tests. Must complete CPR, AED, First Aid, Sensitivity, Wheelchair operation & Passenger Tie-down & Securement Training. Successfully complete the Passenger Service and Safety Driver Training Program or PASS. Have no criminal convictions for which a pardon had not been granted. All jobs offers are conditional upon providing, at your own expense, a Criminal Record Search Certificate (Police Clearance), to verify you do not have a Criminal Record for which you have not received a pardon. Be capable of meeting the physical demands of the job – such as sitting for prolonged periods of time using extremity motion such as reaching, gripping, push/pull of steering wheel, twisting and turning of neck, sensory/perceptual demands along with good concentration, visual acuity of 20/30 and color vision deemed safe for driving to judge distances, fine finger movements, such as keying data into fare box keypad, fare card keypad, etc. Examines bus to insure its proper mechanical operation, including review of all safety features. Drives bus over assigned route. Reports any dangerous conditions that could jeopardize the safety of the passenger or other members of the public. Announces major stops and transfer points, assists in loading, securing, and unloading wheelchairs and passengers based on the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Collects bus fares, issues transfers and answers passengers' questions in a professional and congenial manner. Issues reports involving problems encountered on the route, including reckless driver reports, equipment failure reports and changing road condition reports. Maintains contact with dispatch and reports current position and conditions affecting the operation of the route as required. Transport people from one place to another on a transit bus or van. Operate bus by applying brakes, starting and stopping engine. Drive through traffic and obey traffic laws. Deal with unruly passengers. Stop frequently, often only a few blocks apart and when a passenger requests a stop. Collect fares and issue change. Answer questions about schedules, routes, and transfer points. Report accidents or other traffic disruptions to a central dispatcher, and follow directions when using an alternate route. Assist passengers with disabilities and older adults. Check the bus tires. Lights, and oil and do other basic maintenance before and after operation. Follow state and federal transit regulations. Keep passengers informed of delays. Performs other related duties as assigned by the Maintenance & Operations Coordinator or SAPT.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIREMENTS:

Graduation from high school or the equivalent, and a minimum of five years of experience as a licensed motor vehicle operator. Must possess a CNMI Class A Driver's License. Be legally entitled to work in the CNMI (i.e., a U.S. Citizen or valid work permit). Hold a valid, unrestricted Driver's License or equivalent in good standing (no infractions, no demerit points, no accidents).

NOTE: Education and training claimed under 19(A) through (F) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by an official school transcript, diploma or certificate. FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS WILL RESULT IN AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATION. COTA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

INTERESTED PERSONS SHOULD SEND THEIR CURRENT APPLICATION FORMS TO:
Office of Personnel Management
J.M. Building, Beach Road, Garapan
Saipan, MP 96950

/s/ **Thomas J. Camacho**
Special Assistant for Public Transportation

Rescuers end ocean search for Navy fighter pilot

LEMOORE, California (AP)—Rescuers on Saturday have called off their search of the Pacific Ocean for a Navy fighter pilot whose jet was one of two that crashed west of Wake Island.

The Navy said Saturday that it presumes the pilot is dead after failing to find him during a 36-hour search. The Navy declined to release the pilot's name pending notification of his family. The Navy said the crash is under investigation and didn't release any more details.

"This is an exceptionally difficult time for the friends and family of the missing pilot and the Navy community," Rear Admiral Christopher Grady said.

The two F/A-18C Hornets collided in midair about 5:40 p.m. local time about 250 miles (467 kilometers) west of Wake Island. The island is 2,300 miles (3,700 kilometers) west of Honolulu.

"The two F/A-18C aircraft ... had launched from the flight deck (of the USS Carl Vinson) and were in the process of proceeding to their initial stations when they apparently collided approximately seven miles from the ship," the Navy said in a statement.

The other pilot safely ejected, was rescued from the ocean by helicopter and was treated and released from medical facilities aboard the aircraft carrier Carl Vinson.

The pilots and their squadron are from Carrier Air Wing 17 based at Naval Air Station Lemoore in California's San Joaquin Valley.

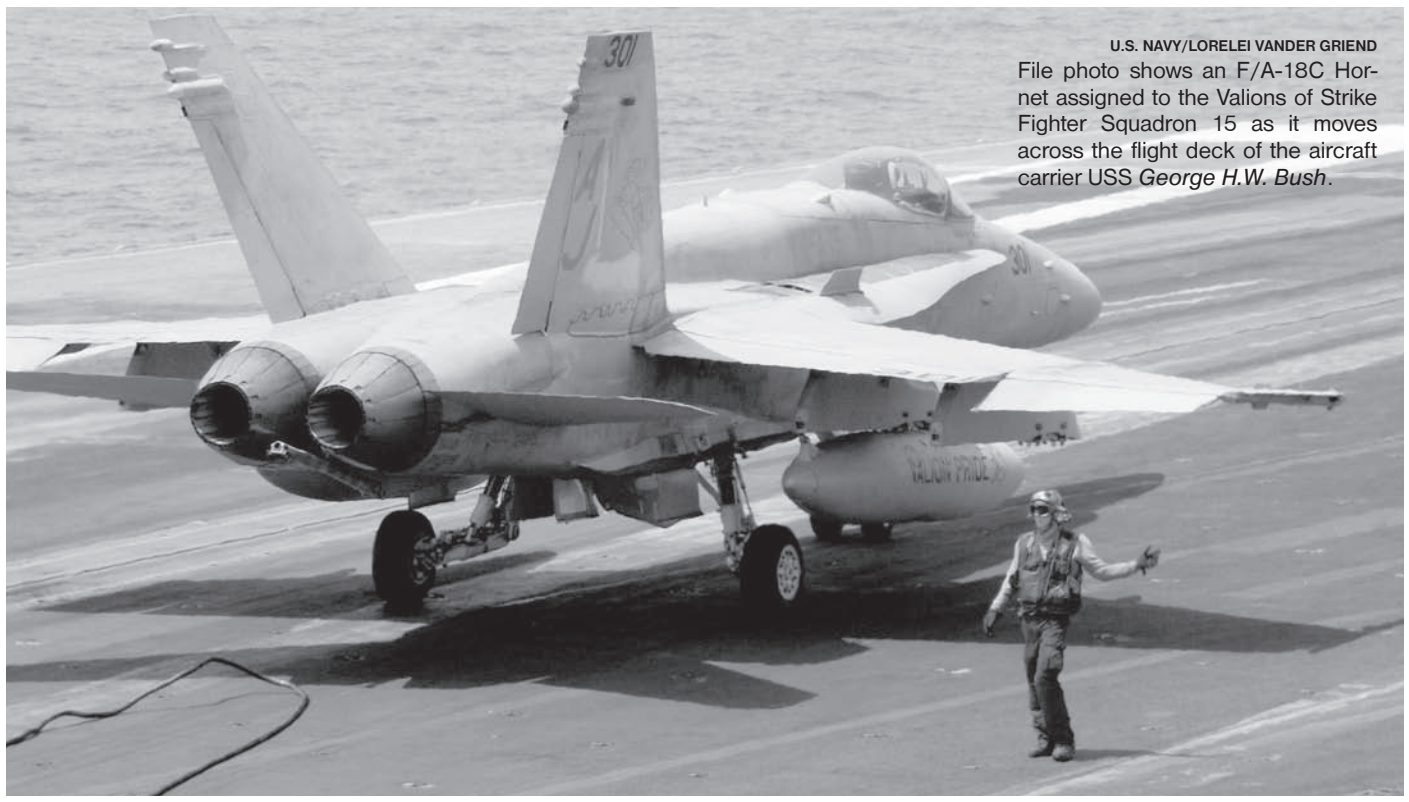
All other aircraft that were airborne at the time safely returned to the ship.

The search for the missing pilot involved the guided-missile cruiser USS Bunker Hill, the guided-missile destroyer USS Gridley, the USS Sterett, the USS Dewey and two helicopter squadrons.

The Carl Vinson strike group team departed San Diego on Aug. 22 for what was announced as a 9 1/2-month deployment.

The F/A-18C is a twin-engine, single-seat strike fighter, designed to function both as a fighter—in roles such as engaging enemy aircraft—and as an attack aircraft, bombing ground targets for example. Fifty-six feet (17 meters) long and with a wingspan of 40½ feet (12 meters), Hornet C models have been deployed since the late 1980s.

Built by contractor McDonnell Douglas, the jets are capable of flying at speeds greater than Mach 1.7 and altitudes of more than 50,000 feet (15,000 meters), according to the Navy.



U.S. NAVY/LORELEI VANDER GRIEND
File photo shows an F/A-18C Hornet assigned to the Valions of Strike Fighter Squadron 15 as it moves across the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS *George H.W. Bush*.

Heavy equipment operators get dirty to clear Tinian runway

By LANCE CPL. DAVID WALTERS
MARINE CORPS AIR STATION IWAKUNI

TINIAN, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands—Heavy equipment operators with Marine Wing Support Squadron 171, Combat Logistics Company 36 and 9th Engineer Support Battalion, clear a runway at West Field, Tinian, Aug. 31 during Exercise Valiant Shield 2014.

Valiant Shield is a biennial exercise which focuses on training that enables real-world proficiency in sustaining joint forces through detecting, locating, tracking and engaging units at sea, in the air, on land, and in cyberspace in response to a range of mission areas.

The mission of the HE operators during VS 14 is to clear thick vegetation off of an old World War II runway, according to Chief Warrant Officer Jeremy Pelham, an engineer equipment officer with MWSS-171, Marine Aircraft Group 12, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

"We have the equipment and personnel to build an expedient airfield to land the aircraft that we need to land," said Staff Sgt. Eric Spencer, the HE operations chief with the squadron. "If we are not here, and our gear is not here, then it doesn't get cleared."

The main equipment being utilized are the 850 JR bulldozer and the 624 KR tractor, rubber tire, articulated, multipurpose, also known as a bucket loader.

Out of about 20 HE operators, only two or three have experience in this particular environment which allows more than 80 percent of the operators to gain new knowledge and experience, according to Pelham.

Lance Cpl. Cameron Warren, an HE operator with the squadron, has mainly worked with forklifts in the past, and this is his first experience moving dirt and jungle.

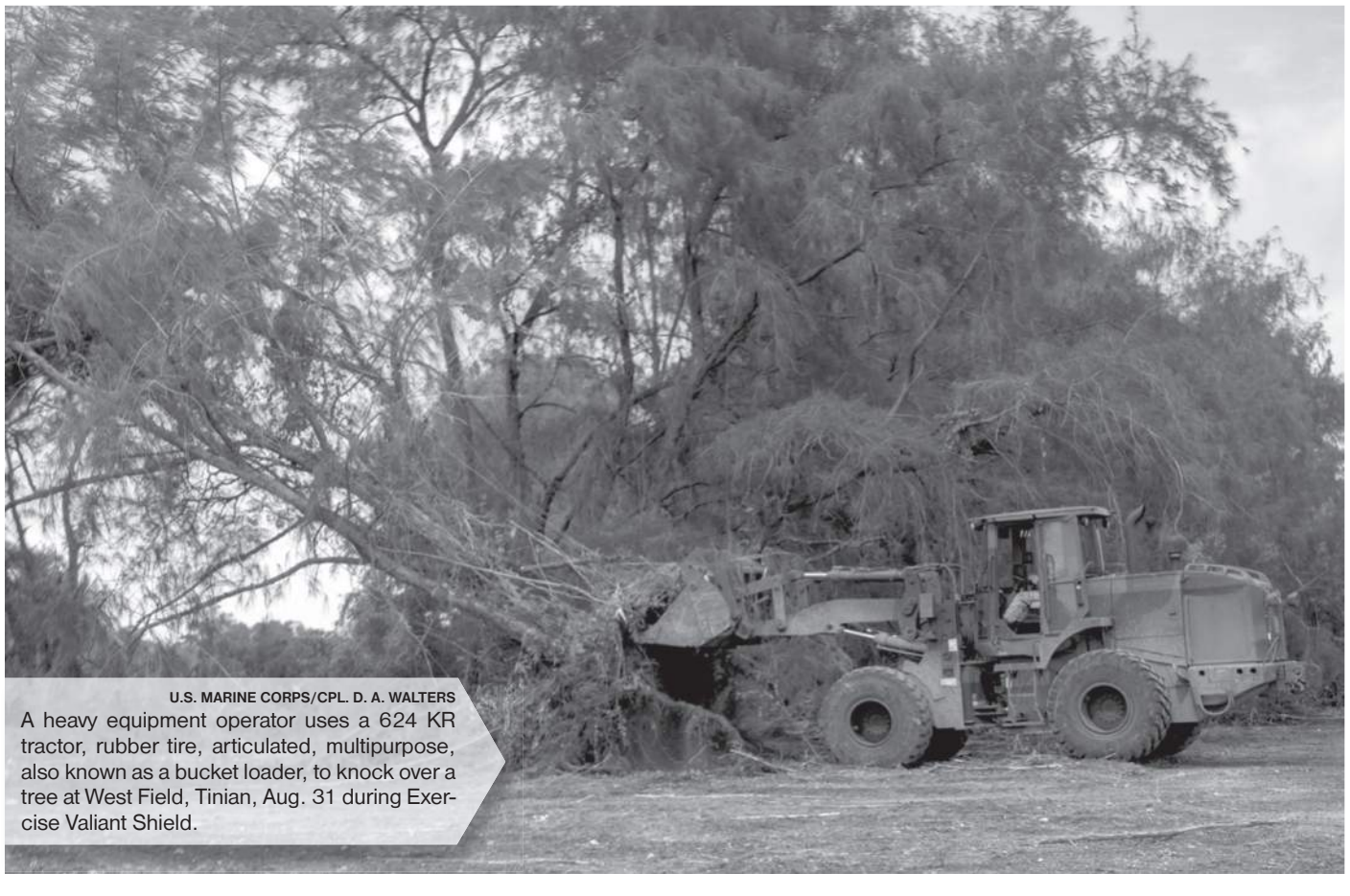
"With forklifts, it's more about precision, but with this, it's more technique," said Warren.

This environment provides new challenges for most of the Marines, according to Spencer. He hopes they will take this time to improve upon their motor operating skills.

"Anytime we get our Marines out here with earth-moving gear it's critical," said Spencer. "95-98 percent of the operating they do at (their home station of) Iwakuni is [material handling equipment] forklifts."

Units with Marine aircraft wings do not have as many opportunities to work with earth-moving equipment as Marines with ESB, according to Pelham. Noncommissioned and staff noncommissioned officers also bring their experiences to the table.

"There is a familiarization that everyone has and that knowledge is being shared amongst everyone," said Pelham. "Now, when (MWSS)-171 Marines go back, they have this valuable experience to fall back on, and that's going in their toolbox from now on."



U.S. MARINE CORPS/CPL. D. A. WALTERS
A heavy equipment operator uses a 624 KR tractor, rubber tire, articulated, multipurpose, also known as a bucket loader, to knock over a tree at West Field, Tinian, Aug. 31 during Exercise Valiant Shield.

Guam military exercises to draw 18,000 US forces

By AUDREY McAVOY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (AP)—American forces are converging in Guam, a strategically important U.S. territory 1,500 miles (2,400 kilometers) south of Tokyo, this month for a week of sophisticated military exercises involving two aircraft carriers.

Servicemen and women will practice searching for submarines, stopping suspect vessels at sea and using a new missile defense system recently set up in Guam. They'll work through issues like how Navy F-18 pilots might talk to Air Force F-16 or F-15 pilots.

Only U.S. forces will participate, unlike many other large-scale exercises that involve multiple partners and allies. This will provide the different services a rare opportunity to work on high-end tactics with each other and smooth out any issues.

"We want to have worked out those pieces early on. We don't want to be working those pieces out in front of our partners, to say, kind of showing dirty laundry," Cmdr. Mike Huff, the U.S. Pacific Fleet's lead planner for the exercise, said in an interview.

Altogether 19 ships, more than 200 aircraft and about 18,000 personnel will participate in the drills that start today and are scheduled to last a week.

Most personnel will be from the Navy and the Air Force. Marines and Army soldiers will also join the drills, which are called Valiant Shield.

The Army will use its new missile defense system—which has a truck-mounted launcher, tracking radar, interceptor missiles and an integrated fire control system—in the exercises for the first time.

The Pentagon sent the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense system, which is designed to intercept missiles during their final stage of flight, to Guam last year as North Korea was vowing to increase production of nuclear weapons materials and threatening a pre-emptive strike against the U.S.

Valiant Shield was first held in 2006. That year, three aircraft carriers participated. The past two times, in 2010 and 2012, only one aircraft carrier participated.

Huff said it's gotten harder to do this kind of training because the services have fewer ships, submarines and aircraft. The ones they do have are also often on deployments or are preparing for deployment.

Budget cuts forced the military to cancel a major exercise in Alaska called Northern Edge last year, making this month's drills in Guam all the more important.

Valiant Shield provides realistic training that helps the services plan and communicate, U.S. Pacific Air Forces spokeswoman Capt. Susan Harrington said.

"High-level, joint training among U.S. military forces ensures the U.S. military remains the pre-eminent military power in the region, capable of honoring its security commitments to allies, partners, and friends," she said in a statement.

Business

US threatened Yahoo with huge fine over emails

WASHINGTON (AP)—Yahoo's free email service could have cost the company an extra quarter of a million dollars a day.

The government called for the huge fine in 2008 if Yahoo didn't go along with an expansion of U.S. surveillance by surrendering online information, a step the company regarded as unconstitutional. At stake, according to the government, was the nation's security.

"International terrorists, and (redacted) in particular, use Yahoo to communicate over the Internet," the director of national intelligence at the time, Mike McConnell, said in a court document supporting the government's position. "Any further delay in Yahoo's compliance could cause great harm to the United States, as vital foreign intelligence information contained in communications to which only Yahoo has access, will go uncollected."

The outlines of Yahoo's secret and ultimately unsuccessful court fight against government surveillance emerged when a federal judge ordered the unsealing of some material about Yahoo's court challenge. Sections of some of the documents were redacted, such as the names of the terrorists McConnell cited.

AP
This Oct. 17, 2012, photo, shows a sign in front of Yahoo! headquarters in Sunnyvale, Calif.

In a statement Thursday, Yahoo said the government amended a law to demand user information from online services, prompting a challenge in 2007 during the George W. Bush administration.

"Our challenge, and a later appeal in the case, did not succeed," Yahoo general counsel Ron Bell said.

The new material about the case underscores "how we had to fight every step of the way to challenge the U.S. government's surveillance efforts," Bell added. "At one point, the U.S. government threatened the imposition of $250,000 in fines per day if we refused to comply."

Bell said the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court upheld the predecessor to Section 702 of the FISA Amendments Act. Section 702 refers to the program called PRISM, which gave the government access to online communications by users of Yahoo.

Former National Security Agency systems analyst Edward Snowden disclosed the program last year.

Yahoo said it is committed to protecting users' data and that it will continue to contest requests and laws that it considers unlawful, unclear or overly broad.

"We consider this an important win for transparency, and hope that these records help promote informed discussion about the relationship between privacy, due process and intelligence gathering," Bell said.

The newly released documents show that the Bush administration was taking a hard line and was miffed that Yahoo had even been allowed to get into court with its complaint.

In sum, the FISA court erred in permitting Yahoo to challenge the directives, said a court brief signed by then-Attorney General Michael Mukasey.

Yahoo was arguing that what the Bush administration was doing violated the Fourth Amendment rights of customers of Yahoo customers.

"The government has conducted warrantless foreign intelligence surveillance for de-

Will Apple's digital wallet kill the card swipe?

NEW YORK (AP)—Apple wants the plastic credit card to become as rare as the paper check.

On Tuesday, the company announced Apple Pay, a digital payment system that lets people pay for retail store purchases using their phones rather than cash or credit cards. The service, which will work both with iPhones and Apple's new Watch, is backed by a host of big retailers, along with most major banks and credit card issuers, including Visa, MasterCard and American Express.

So-called contactless payment isn't new. Starbucks, McDonald's, PayPal, Google and Square offer their own services, but only a small portion of customers use them. Some experts believe Apple Pay -with its presence on millions of iPhones and its advanced security features- could be the service that leads to widespread adoption of the digital wallet.

Citi Investment Research analyst Mark May believes the sum total of mobile payments could grow from $1 billion in 2013 to $58.4 billion by 2017.

Payment digitization paints an enticing vision of shopping's future: simply tap your device against a checkout screen and walk away with your new shoes.

But despite the flashy Apple Pay launch, Apple faces challenges making that vision a reality. The company and other digital wallet providers must convince shoppers that the transactions are safe -especially in the wake of recent high-profile data breaches at Home Depot and Target. Meanwhile, the company must also make a case to retailers that it's worth it for them to invest in new point-of-sale systems.

US, EU levy sanctions on Russia despite cease-fire

WASHINGTON (AP)—Unsatisfied with a fragile cease-fire in Ukraine, the United States and the European Union levied new sanctions Friday against major Russian banks and defense companies, as well as penalties aimed at curtailing Russia's ability to develop oil and gas projects.

But the restrictions on Russia's energy sector were carefully crafted to avoid impacting the country's current production of oil and gas, a move that would raise global energy prices at time of weak economic growth. Russia is the largest oil exporter outside of OPEC and the most important supplier of natural gas to Europe.

The Western sanctions came one week after Ukraine and Russian-backed separatists signed a cease-fire aimed at ending a monthslong conflict. The agreement has been routinely violated, and U.S. officials say they are yet to see signs that Russia is implementing the deal in good faith.

If Russia and the separatists do follow through on the accord, U.S. and European officials say they could roll back this current round of penalties. But officials said that because Russia moved troops and weaponry into Ukraine in recent weeks, it was necessary to levy penalties now rather than wait to see what comes of the cease-fire. Russia denies having a role in the conflict.

"Today's actions demonstrate our determination to increase the costs on Russia as long as it continues to violate Ukraine's territorial integrity and sovereignty," said David Cohen, Treasury undersecretary for terrorism and financial intelligence.

The West has levied multiple rounds of sanctions on Russia, contributing to slower economic growth there. But the penalties have had little impact on Russian President Vladimir Putin's calculus and U.S. officials privately acknowledge that there's no guarantee more sanctions will get him to stop his provocations in Ukraine.

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 • Fax: (670) 235-7147
Email: administration@cda.gov.mp • website: www.cda.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
2014-CDA-11-ITB

CLOSING DATE: Wednesday, October 1, 2014 TIME: 10:00 am

"JANITORIAL and LAWN CARE SERVICE FOR CDA"

Copies of the Scope of Work may be obtained at the Commonwealth Development Authority office, 2nd Floor CDA Bldg. in Oleai, Saipan during regular working hours or by facsimile request to 235-7147.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/MANUEL A. SABLAN
Executive Director

/s/HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION,	] CIVIL ACTION] NO. 07-0421
Plaintiff, -v-	]
ALEXANDER A. SABLAN and NORMA MAE S. SABLAN,	] NOTICE OF SALE
Defendants.	]

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on September 3, 2014, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 002 G 379, situated in Kagman II, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 09 dated May 31, 1989, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 90-1906, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, October 3, 2014, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 5th day of September, 2014:

/s/MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

Notice of Zoning Board
SPECIAL MEETING

The special meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Thursday, September 18th , 2014 at 5:00 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten DanDan Commercial Bldg., Saipan
(Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • e-mail: www.zoning.gov.mp)

A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2.Roll Call

B. Public Hearing
1. **Conditional Use Application #2014-3265**: IonOil Corp. is proposing to process diesel fuel for storage and delivery to customers, on TR# 22778-1 and 22778-R2 in Koblerville. This use is classified as Manufacturing and Processing, and is permitted in this district as a Conditional Use. This area is located along Chalan Msgr. Martinez in Koblerville, north of the Mobil Gas Station, and is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

C. Communications/ Reports. None
D. Old Business. None
E. New Business. None
F. Executive (Closed) Session.
G. Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

Notice of Zoning Board
Public Hearing for
IonOil Corp.

IonOil Corp. is proposing to process diesel fuel for storage and delivery to customers, on TR# 22778-1 and 22778-R2 in Koblerville. This use is classified as Manufacturing and Processing, and is permitted in this district as a Conditional Use. This area is located along Chalan Msgr. Martinez in Koblerville, north of the Mobil Gas Station, and is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

Date: **September 18th, 2014, Thursday**
Time: **5:00 pm**
Place: **Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd flr, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan**

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, September 16th , 2014. Written comments may also be submitted via email to therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp , via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2013).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

Nation

Feds chase treasure hunter turned fugitive

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—One of the last times anyone ever saw Tommy Thompson, he was walking on the pool deck of a Florida mansion wearing nothing but eye glasses, leather shoes, socks and underwear, his brown hair growing wild.

It was a far cry from the conquering hero who, almost two decades before, docked a ship in Norfolk, Virginia, loaded with what's been described as the greatest lost treasure in American history—thousands of pounds of gold that sat in the ocean for 131 years after the ship carrying it sank during a hurricane.

On that day in 1989, Thompson couldn't contain a grin as hundreds cheered his achievement. But his victory was short-lived.

For the past two years, the U.S. Marshals Service has hunted Thompson as a fugitive—wanted for skipping a court date to explain to investors what happened to the riches. The rise and fall of the intrepid explorer is the stuff of storybooks, a tale receiving renewed attention amid a new expedition begun this year to the sunken ship.

"I think he had calculated it, whatever you want to call it, an escape plan," Marshals agent Brad Fleming said. "I think he's had that for a long time."

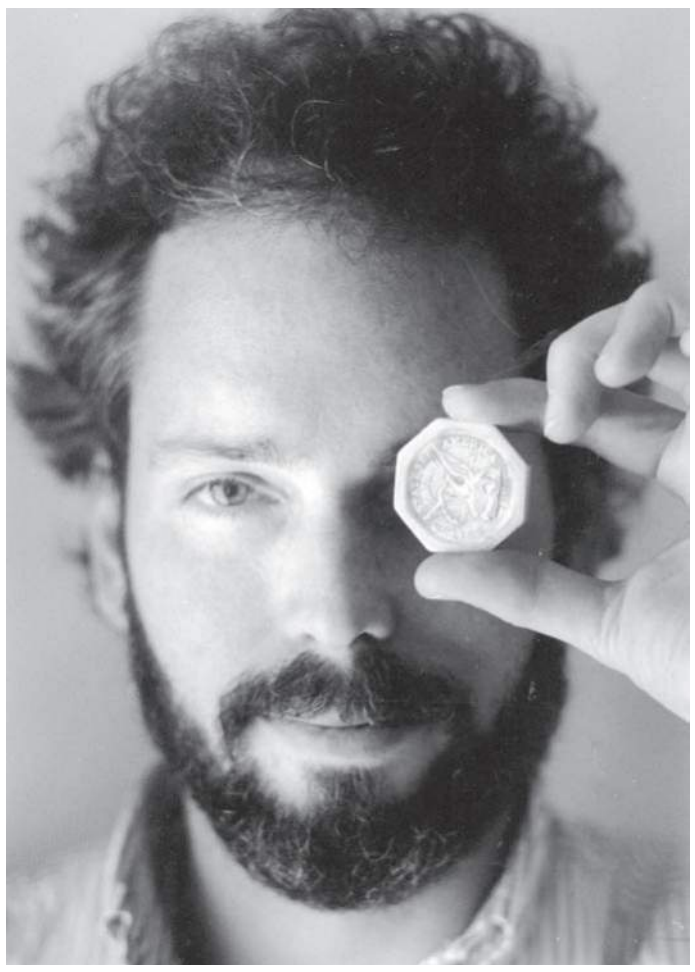
Around 1983, Thompson grew obsessed with tracking down the SS Central America. When the ship went down off the South Carolina coast in 1857, 425 people drowned and gold worth millions was lost.

Thompson, an oceanic engineer at Battelle Memorial Institute in Columbus, convinced 161 people to invest in his quest, raising $12.7 million. On Oct. 1, 1988, he finally found the treasure, which he would later describe as "otherworldly in its splendor."

But his joy faded fast. Thirty-nine insurance companies sued Thompson, claiming they had insured the gold in 1857 and that it belonged to them. In 1996, Thompson's company was awarded 92 percent of the treasure, and the rest was divided among some of the insurers. Four years later, Thompson's company netted $50 million after selling 532 gold bars and thousands of coins to a gold marketing group.

Yet his legal troubles weren't over.

By 2005, Thompson's investors still had not been paid, and two sued—a now-deceased investment firm president who put in some $250,000 and the Dispatch Printing Company, which publishes The Columbus Dispatch newspaper and invested about $1 million. The following year, nine members of Thompson's crew also sued, saying they, too, were promised some proceeds.



AP
In this November 1989 photo, Tommy Thompson holds a $50 pioneer gold piece retrieved earlier in 1989 from the wreck of the gold ship Central America.

Thompson went into seclusion, moving into a mansion in Vero Beach, Florida. After that, his behavior turned bizarre.

Thompson refused to use his real name on his utility bills, telling realtor Vance Brinkerhoff that his life had been threatened and asking him, "How would you like to live like that?" Brinkerhoff recounted the exchange in a court deposition.

In another deposition, maintenance worker James Kennedy recalled once going to the house and seeing Thompson on the pool deck wearing only socks, shoes and dirty underwear. "His hair was all crazy," Kennedy said. "After that, me and (a friend) referred to him as the crazy professor."

It's not clear exactly when Thompson disappeared. On Aug. 13, 2012, he failed to appear at a hearing in the court battles, and a federal judge found him in contempt and issued an arrest warrant. Not long after, Kennedy went inside the Florida mansion and found pre-paid disposable cellphones and bank wraps for $10,000 bills, along with a book called "How to Live Your Life Invisible."

The Marshals Service has splashed Thompson's face on electronic billboards and run down hundreds of tips—from the guy who thought he might have shared an elevator with Thompson to a report that the name "Tommy" was signed on a memorial website for a dead friend of the treasure hunter. Nothing has panned out. A "Wanted" poster even hangs in the barge making a new voyage to the Central America in a new expedition to recover more treasure from the "Ship of Gold."

Since April, Florida-based Odyssey Marine Exploration has brought up millions of dollars in gold and silver bars and coins. That work will continue indefinitely, an Odyssey spokeswoman said, and Thompson's original investors are expected to receive part of the recovered riches.

An attorney for the investors who sued did not respond to requests for comment, nor did a number of the investors.

As to where Thompson, now 62, might be, theories abound. The crew members' attorney, Mike Szolosi, asserts that he's seen records indicating Thompson took 500 gold coins worth $2 million and took potentially millions from his own company on top of his approved compensation.

"Presumably all of that is still somewhere with Tommy," he said.

Attorney Rick Roble, who defended Thompson's company until he withdrew from the case last month, said there's no proof Thompson stole anything.

Author Gary Kinder, who chronicled the treasure hunt in "Ship of Gold in the Deep Blue Sea," said nothing in his time with Thompson gives him any insight into his whereabouts. "I don't know what it would entail to hide like that. Get your teeth fixed? Buy a blond wig?"

Obama condemns beheading of Briton by extremists

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama on Saturday condemned as a "barbaric murder" the slaying of British aid worker David Haines by Islamic State extremists.

Haines was abducted last year in Syria, and extremists released a video on Saturday showing his beheading.

In a statement issued Saturday night, Obama said the hearts of Americans go out to Haines' family and the people of the United Kingdom.

"The United States stands shoulder to shoulder tonight with our close friend and ally in grief and resolve," Obama said.

"We will work with the United Kingdom and a broad coalition of nations from the region and around the world to bring the perpetrators of this outrageous act to justice, and to degrade and destroy this threat to the people of our countries, the region and the world," he said.

In his statement, Obama repeated the pledge he made Wednesday night in a nationally televised address in which he laid out a strategy to respond to the threat from the Islamic State group, which is referred to at times as ISIL. "Our objective is clear," he told the nation earlier this week. "We will degrade, and ultimately destroy, ISIL through a comprehensive and sustained counter-terrorism strategy."

The U.S. began attacking the extremist group with airstrikes in Iraq last month. Since then, the extremists have beheaded two American journalists held captive in Syria, James Foley and Steven Sotloff.

As part of the effort against the Islamic State group, Secretary of State John Kerry formally announced Saturday that retired Marine Gen. John Allen was joining the State Department as a special presidential envoy to coordinate the international coalition. Allen worked with international allies as the top U.S. commander in Afghanistan from 2011-2013.

New focus on minority voting after Brown's death

FERGUSON, Mo. (AP)—A few miles from the street where Michael Brown died is the grave of Dred Scott, a slave who went to the Supreme Court and tried, unsuccessfully, to be recognized as a free American citizen.

One hundred and fifty-seven years later, a white police officer's fatal shooting of Brown—unarmed, black and 18 years old—raises fresh questions about the extent to which blacks in suburban towns are regarded as full partners by the officials and law enforcers elected largely by and responsive to small segments of the population.

Political participation is increasing on the national level for blacks and Hispanics. On the local level, voting continues to be struggle, as it is in this St. Louis suburb.

In the most recent city election in April, only 1,484 of Ferguson's 12,096 registered voters cast ballots, easily re-electing the mayor. Next year voters can weigh in again on their municipal government through city council elections.

Nationally, only 1 in 4 four voters turns out for mayoral elections in the largest cities, according to a 2013 study of 340 mayoral elections in 144 cities from 1996 to 2012 by Thomas M. Holbrook and Aaron C. Weinschenk of the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee and the University of Wisconsin Green Bay.

Missouri does not ask about race or ethnicity on its voter registration forms. But roughly two-thirds of Ferguson's residents are black. The police force is predominantly white. Five of Ferguson's six city council members are white, as is the mayor. The grand jury investigating the Brown case has six white men, three white women, two black women and one black man.

Lifelong Ferguson resident Andre Adams, 29, a barber at Infiniti Styles Barbering Salon, said he votes whenever he can. Young people in Ferguson must be convinced that they should do the same, Adams said, or "we're just going to fall victim to what's going on now."

"We need more of our young people, as well as our old people to come out here and vote, to get what's going on, to listen in to the town hall meetings and all," Adams said. "If we could get them, something could actually change."

There are signs that residents are ready to reverse years of civic apathy.

At the city council's Sept. 9 meeting, the first since Brown was killed, resident after resident pledged to vote Mayor James Knowles and council members out of office, sharply rejecting earlier assertions by Knowles that there was no "racial divide" in Ferguson.

ACROSS THE NATION

Pa. State Police identify trooper killed in ambush

BLOOMING GROVE, Pa. (AP)—A late-night ambush outside a state police barracks in Pennsylvania's rural northeastern corner left one trooper dead and another critically wounded, and authorities scoured the densely wooded countryside and beyond on Saturday looking for the shooter or shooters. State Police Commissioner Frank Noonan said a "very dangerous, armed criminal" eluded quick capture. "This attack was an ambush. Our troopers were ... shot without warning and really had no chance to defend themselves," Noonan told reporters Saturday afternoon. "It's a cowardly attack. It's an attack upon all of us in society." The dead lawman was identified as Cpl. Bryon Dickson of Dunmore, a seven-year veteran who had transferred to the region from the Philadelphia barracks several months ago. Trooper Alex Douglass underwent surgery and was in critical but stable condition, Noonan said.

1 dead in gas accident on offshore La. platform

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—A contractor was killed and two others were injured Saturday during maintenance on a Chevron natural gas pipeline off the Louisiana coast, authorities said. The contractor, whose name was not immediately released, was among four maintenance workers on the platform when the accident occurred about 11:10 a.m. Saturday, said Gareth Johnstone, a spokesman for Chevron Pipe Line Co. He said the two other workers were taken to a hospital for what are expected to be minor injuries. A helicopter brought two people from offshore to meet an ambulance, but both declined to take the ambulance to a hospital after being checked by medics, said Randall Ansley, shift supervisor for Acadian Ambulance.

Asia

Pakistan diverts rivers to save cities from floods

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Military specialists blew up dikes in central Pakistan to divert swollen rivers and save cities from raging floods that have killed hundreds of people, authorities said Saturday, as officials stepped up efforts in India's part of Kashmir to prevent the spread of water-borne diseases there.

In Pakistan, the breaches at the overflowing Chenab River were performed overnight as floodwaters reached Multan, a city famous for its Sufi saints. Pakistani news channels showed pictures of floodwaters gushing through the blown-up dikes.

Civil and military officials have been using helicopters and boats to evacuate marooned people since Sept. 3, when floods triggered by monsoon rains hit Pakistan and Kashmir, which is divided between Pakistan and neighboring India.

Pakistan's military said in a statement Saturday that it was still evacuating people and air-dropping food in the districts of Multan, Muzaffargarh and Jhang. It said troops had air-dropped tons of food in flood-affected areas, while the army's medical teams were also treating patients.

Ahmad Kamal, the spokesman for Pakistan's National Disaster Management authority, said rains and floods had killed 280 people and injured more than 500 in Pakistan and Pakistani-administered Kashmir. He said more than 2 million people had been affected.

Kamal said rescuers had evacuated 276,681 persons from flood-hit areas and aerial monitoring was being done through helicopters.

On Saturday, state-run Pakistan television showed pictures of men and women wading through waist-deep waters. It also showed army helicopters plucking people from rooftops and trees in inundated villages. Pictures taken from helicopters showed submerged villages and towns in the districts of Jhang and Multan.

Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, who is himself supervising rescue operations, traveled to Jhang on Saturday.

In a televised speech there, Sharif said his government was exempting flood-affected people from paying their electricity bills.

"I assure you that we will rebuild your homes. We will do whatever is possible to help you," he told a gathering of survivors near a flooded village.

Japan pushes North Korea to resolve abductions

TOKYO (AP)—Japan's prime minister turned up the pressure on North Korea on Saturday to answer questions over the fate of possibly hundreds of Japanese citizens believed to have been abducted by the North's agents in the 1970s and '80s.

Shinzo Abe told a rally in Tokyo that he will not back down until every abductee is accounted for. Suggesting he believes some are still alive, he said he will not relent until they are allowed to come back to Japan.

Abe's remarks came as North Korea is preparing to announce the results of a new investigation into the matter following an agreement in May.

Japan officially recognizes 17 cases, but an independent investigative commission and police suggest the number could be as high as 869.

"Resolving the abductions issue is the top priority of my administration," the prime minister told the crowd. "My mission will not be over until the day all of the abduction victims have been returned to their families."

North Korea is expected to announce the preliminary results of its new investigation soon, possibly by the end of this month, and some city and town officials in Japan have already begun making preparations to welcome survivors home. But it is by no means clear that the North will come up with the results Tokyo wants, which could lead to even deeper acrimony.

The abductions, along with the North's nuclear weapons and long-range missile development, have long been a major source of tensions between the two countries, which have no diplomatic relations and regularly trade hostile rhetoric.

In 2002, North Korea acknowledged that its agents had kidnapped 13 Japanese, mainly to train spies in Japanese language and culture. It allowed five of them to return to Japan that year, but said the others had died.

Tokyo accused Pyongyang of falsifying its claims about the deaths, and then reneged on its promise to send the five back, angering the North. After several years of fits and starts, North Korea agreed to reinvestigate in 2008. But it abandoned that promise as Japan tightened its sanctions over the North's missile and nuclear tests.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Malaysia Airlines flight has autopilot defect

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—A Malaysia Airlines flight to India returned to Kuala Lumpur early Sunday due to an autopilot defect shortly after takeoff. The captain turned back as a precaution and the defect didn't affect the safety of the aircraft or passengers, the airline said. The Boeing 738 plane, which had been heading to Hyderabad, landed safely at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport nearly four hours after take-off, the airline statement. Malaysia Airlines has had two major disasters this year. Flight 370 from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing disappeared in March with 239 people on board. It is presumed to have crashed in the southern Indian Ocean though no trace has been found. Underwater vehicles equipped with side-scan sonar, multi-beam echo sounders and video equipment are being deployed to search the seabed.

About 100 rescued from sunken PH ferry

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Rescuers saved about 100 people overnight and recovered two bodies from a ferry that sank in rough seas after encountering steering trouble in the central Philippines, officials said Sunday. Coast guard Capt. Joseph Coyme said search and rescue efforts by air and sea would continue because it was uncertain how many passengers and crewmembers were on the M/V *Maharlika II*. The domestic ferry sank late Saturday after listing and being lashed by strong wind and waves whipped up by a storm north of the ferry's path. Around 100 survivors have been rescued by two passing foreign ships and another ferry deployed for rescue operations by the company that owned the Maharlika. That figure is way beyond the 58 passengers and 26 crewmembers that the Maharlika's skipper reported in the distress call to the coast guard, Coyme said.

North Korea holds trial of American Matthew Miller

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP)—North Korea held a trial Sunday morning for American Matthew Miller, who was detained in April for violating his tourist status when he entered the country. Details were not immediately available. The specific charges or punishment he could face were not announced before the trial. Miller, 24, of Bakersfield, California, is believed to have torn up his visa at Pyongyang's airport and demanded asylum. A trial is also expected soon for Jeffrey Fowle, 56, who entered the North as a tourist but was arrested in May for leaving a Bible at a provincial club. A third American, Korean-American missionary Kenneth Bae, is serving out a 15-year sentence for alleged "hostile acts."

World

Video shows slaying of British aid worker

BEIRUT (AP)—Islamic State extremists released a video showing the beheading of British aid worker David Haines, who was abducted in Syria last year, and British Prime Minister David Cameron late Saturday condemned his slaying as "an act of pure evil."

Cameron confirmed Haines' death in a statement after the British Foreign Office had said earlier that it was "working urgently to verify the video." Haines is the third Westerner beheaded in recent weeks by the Islamic State group, which has seized vast swaths of territory in Syria and Iraq.

"This is a despicable and appalling murder of an innocent aid worker. It is an act of pure evil," Cameron said, adding that "my heart goes out to the family of David Haines who have shown extraordinary courage and fortitude throughout this ordeal."

"We will do everything in our power to hunt down these murderers and ensure they face justice, however long it takes," Cameron said.

AP

This image made from video posted on the Internet by Islamic State militants and provided by the SITE Intelligence Group, a U.S. terrorism watchdog, on Saturday, Sept. 13, 2014, purports to show British aid worker David Haines before he was beheaded.

Cameron returned to his residence at 10 Downing Street shortly after midnight and is expected to chair a meeting of the government's emergency response committee early Sunday.

The video emerged a day after Haines' family issued a public plea late Friday urging his captors to contact them.

The Foreign Office said it was offering Haines' family "every support possible. They ask to be left alone at this time."

Islamic State militants recently beheaded two American journalists, James Foley and Steven Sotloff, and posted the videos online after the U.S. began launching airstrikes and humanitarian missions in August to aid waning Iraqi and Kurdish security forces in northern Iraq. The Islamic State group has also put out videos showing the beheading of Kurdish and Lebanese soldiers and the mass shooting of dozens of captured Syrian soldiers.

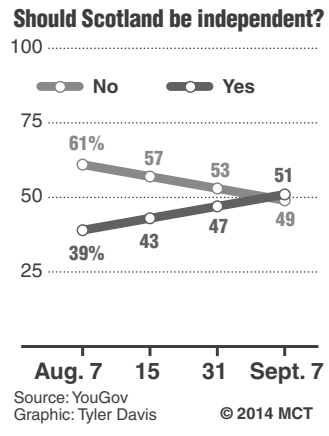
'New' Scots vote crucial to independence result

GLASGOW, Scotland (AP)—On the south side of Glasgow, in the heartland of Scotland's Asian community, support for independence from the United Kingdom is strong as Thursday's referendum nears.

Colorful displays of Yes posters outnumber those backing the Better Together campaign. Talk on the street is of opportunity and a chance to create a fairer country more welcoming to immigrants.

Glasgow is Scotland's largest city, and its most ethnically diverse. Over the last 60 years an influx of Indians, Pakistanis, Bengalis, Chinese, Italians, Poles and others have created new communities which, because of their relative small size, have had to merge with the culture of their adopted country.

Across Scotland, there are some 140,000 people who class themselves as Asian Scots, along with around 30,000 Africans, 7,000 from the Caribbean, 55,000 Poles and over 160,000 other non-British EU Citizens eligible to vote in the landmark referendum. These "New Scots" represent more than 4 percent of the population and with the polls putting both sides of the debate neck-and-neck just days before Thursday's vote, their views could be critical.



Alyas Hamidi, 21, was born in Glasgow and regards himself first and foremost as a Glaswegian. In public, with his friends, he is a Scot but at home—where English is rarely spoken with his parents and grandparents—he is Iranian. He identifies with both places—and wants his adopted homeland to embrace independence.

"I was the only Iranian boy in my class and apart from a few rude comments over the years I've never felt my background was a problem for anyone," he said. "I'm proud to be Scottish. I'll be voting yes."

He said that when his father moved to London more than 30 years ago it was hard to fit in, so his family tended to mix only with others from the same background.

Ukraine government repels rebel attack on airport

LUHANSK, Ukraine (AP)—A convoy of more than 200 white trucks crossed the Russian border to deliver humanitarian aid to a battered Ukrainian city on Saturday, a move made without Kiev's consent yet met with silence by Ukraine's top leaders.

"Early in the morning, we entered Ukraine to bring aid to Luhansk," said Yury Stepanov, a Russian who was overseeing the convoy. "We came in around 215 vehicles," he added, as workers unloaded boxes into a local warehouse.

The much-needed aid arrived as fighting flared again between pro-Russian rebels and government forces, further imperiling an already fragile cease-fire in the region.

On Saturday, Ukraine's military operation in the east said it had repelled a rebel attack on the government-held airport of Donetsk, which came under artillery fire from rebel positions late on Friday. Ukrainian authorities also admitted for the first time since the cease-fire started last week that they have inflicted casualties on the rebel side.

Health & Fitness

From Ebola front line: Teaching how to STAY SAFE

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
AP MEDICAL WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP)—He's traveled to the sites of worrisome outbreaks of SARS, bird flu, MERS. But the Ebola outbreak that's spiraled out of control in West Africa presents new challenges for even a veteran infectious disease doctor—starting with how to stay safe.

"You don't have to be exhausted to make a small mistake" with protective gear, warned Dr. Daniel Lucey of Georgetown University Medical Center, who recently returned from three weeks in Sierra Leone, where he saw Ebola for the first time.

Views of the front lines by returning physicians like Lucey shed light on some of the day-to-day difficulties in containing Ebola, and why health care workers have been at such risk.

"I don't want to discourage anyone who wants to volunteer," stressed Lucey, who soon leaves for Africa again, to work in Liberia for six weeks. "There is so much that even one person can contribute."

Some things to know:

PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT VARIES

In Freetown, Lucey helped care for patients at Connaught Hospital's isolation unit who were waiting to learn if they had Ebola.

In addition to protective suits, aprons and masks, he and fellow health workers wore goggles that quickly fogged up as they began to sweat.

"You can see out of them, but it's not optimal," Lucey said. "I walk very slowly, and I do everything very slowly" to compensate.

Workers double-glove. But the unit had so-called exam gloves that come to the wrist and "they're not a very strong material," rather than longer surgical gloves that can be pulled over the suit's sleeve for extra protection, he said.

Lucey said that as he departed, the center received a valuable shipment of clear plastic face shields that won't fog up and will cover more skin, but not surgical gloves.

TAKING OFF CONTAMINATED GEAR PROPERLY IS TRICKY

It requires washing still-gloved hands in a bleach solution before starting and washing them again after taking off each separate piece in a precise manner and order.

"I'm embarrassed to admit it," Lucey said, but he missed one of those in-between washings.

"You know, I just forgot to do that one time after one step," he said. "It meant to me, I was not thinking as clearly."

"You're sweating like crazy," he added. "It takes a lot of time. But you've got to take the risk as close to zero as possible."

THINGS LIKE GASOLINE AND AMBULANCE DRIVERS AFFECT CARE

Before a mobile testing laboratory arrived the other week, Lucey said blood samples had to be driven to another city about four hours away for diagnosis, sometimes taking a few days. One day he counted 17 patients waiting in the 13-bed unit to learn if they were infected. Plastic sheets separated the beds.

Patients found to have Ebola then had to make that same trip by ambulance to reach the nearest treatment center, he said.

"The ambulance might come once a day, or run out of petrol," Lucey said. "Hours matter, and days matter, a lot."

MORE HEALTH WORKERS NEEDED

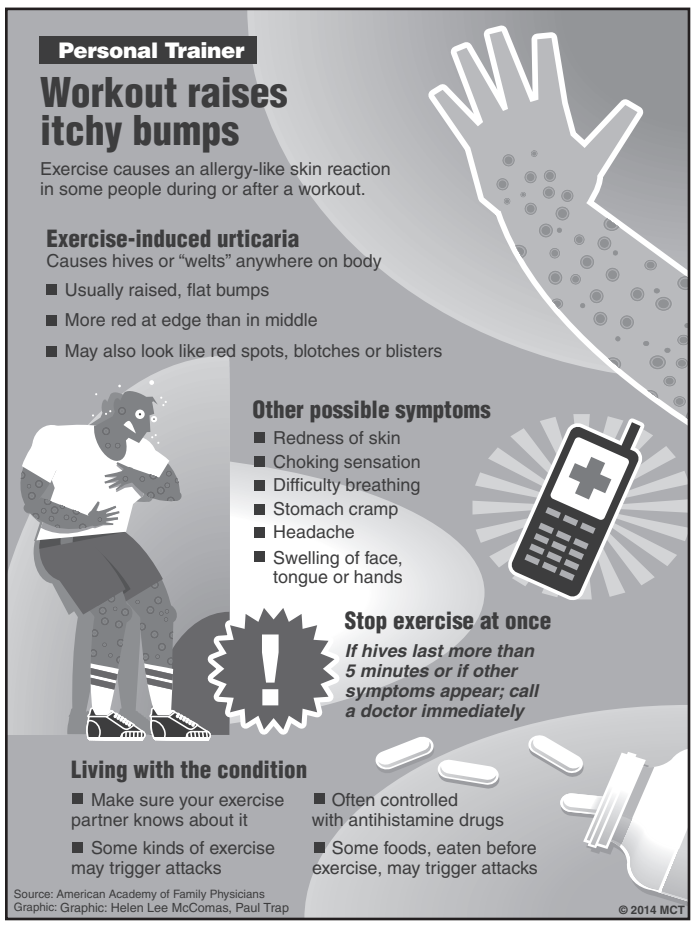
"Don't work alone," Lucey learned. He and Dr. Marta Lado, a Spanish doctor who runs Connaught's isolation unit, teamed up to watch each other put on and take off their protective gear, to guard against missteps.

Over nine days, Lucey said he and other doctors trained about 160 local health workers from around Freetown to properly handle personal protection equipment. He said he was thrilled to see nurses creating posters of the safety steps and instructing each other. Some had friends or colleagues who've died of Ebola, yet they came: "It's inspiring and humbling."

But they also have to be equipped to get the job done, he said.

"Everyone wants to do the right thing," Lucey said. But in the end, "Do you get the surgical gloves? Do you get the ambulances? Do you get the petrol? Do you get someone to drive the blood samples to the lab? Does the lab have electricity or is the generator out?"

In Celebration of His New Life
†Isidro Taga Cepeda
Passed away in the grace of Our Lord on Monday, September 08, 2014.
Born to Life on May 04, 1939 in Rota, CNMI son of the late †Gregorio Manalisay Cepeda and †Eufemia Taga Cepeda.
His memories will forever live in the hearts of his loving Wife, Dorothea Camacho Cepeda, his Children and Families:
• Frank Cepeda, children: Angela Cepeda, Jamie Johnson (CJ Johnson), Leina Arciga (Manny Arciga), Sydney Cepeda, Frank Cepeda Jr., Tiffany Lologo (Obed Lologo)
• Stephen Cepeda, children: Aaron Cepeda, Micheal Cepeda (Lupita Cepeda)
• Doreen Cepeda Zelles (Dale Zelles), child: Veronica Zelles
• Doris Cepeda Kawakami (Brett Kawakami), children: Jordan Kawakami, Jarrett Kawakami, Carmen Kawakami
• Dina Cepeda Young, children: Michael Couch II (Kayla Couch), Lillie Couch, Shelby Young, and Shannah Young
He will also be greatly missed by his 16 great grandchildren, numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives and friends.
Isidro "Sid" Cepeda began his military career in 1960 and retired after 20 years as Sergeant First Class. He served a tour in Korea and two tours in Vietnam. He received the following decorations and medals: Silver Star Medal with 1 bronze oak leaf cluster, 2 Bronze Star Medals for Heroism, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge 1st Award, Korean Presidential Unit Citation, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation, and Vietnam Civil Actions Unit Citation.
After retirement, Sid settled with his wife and children in Monterey, California. Sid was a scratch handicapped golfer and enjoyed spending his spare time with his grandchildren. In 2004, he returned to his homeland in Saipan and traveled regularly to Honolulu, Hawaii.
Funeral services will be held on Thursday, September 18, 2014.
His remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 9:30 am to Kristo Rai Church, Garapan, Saipan.
Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00am followed by Interment Service at the CNMI Veteran's Cemetery at Marpi, Saipan where he will be at a peaceful rest.
Please join us in prayers,
Dorothea Camacho Cepeda, Children and Families


Personal Trainer
Workout raises itchy bumps
Exercise causes an allergy-like skin reaction in some people during or after a workout.
Exercise-induced urticaria
Causes hives or "welts" anywhere on body
■ Usually raised, flat bumps
■ More red at edge than in middle
■ May also look like red spots, blotches or blisters
Other possible symptoms
■ Redness of skin
■ Choking sensation
■ Difficulty breathing
■ Stomach cramp
■ Headache
■ Swelling of face, tongue or hands
Stop exercise at once
If hives last more than 5 minutes or if other symptoms appear; call a doctor immediately
Living with the condition
■ Make sure your exercise partner knows about it
■ Some kinds of exercise may trigger attacks
■ Often controlled with antihistamine drugs
■ Some foods, eaten before exercise, may trigger attacks
Source: American Academy of Family Physicians
Graphic: Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Paul Trap
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Life & Style

Men only: Kathy Griffin's guide to late-night TV

AP
In this June 22, 2014 file photo, host Kathy Griffin speaks on stage at the 41st annual Daytime Emmy Awards at the Beverly Hilton Hotel, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Last year, as a late-night TV shake-up ended with yet another chorus line of white male hosts, Joan Rivers decried the lack of women in any of the coveted jobs as "beyond frustrating."

Days after the death of the only woman to host a late-night network show, the status quo was reaffirmed as CBS on Monday anointed Craig Ferguson's successor: James Corden, a popular British performer, but one largely unknown to American viewers.

Kathy Griffin, who lost a close friend and mentor when Rivers died at 81, was disappointed but unsurprised by the decision. She has good reason: nearly three decades after Rivers' brief run with her talk show on Fox, the late-night network landscape remains entirely male.

"I was interested in the Ferguson spot long before it was announced because I had a feeling things might shift," said a candid Griffin. "My joke phrase is, 'I can start Monday.'"

The response of one executive to her query: "They're not considering females at this time," she recounted.

"You realize that's illegal to say in a business meeting?" was Griffin's comeback.

When she told by another industry exec that the absence of female hosts was "embarrassing" and that women who represent half the population should hold half of such jobs, he had a ready answer: "Well, you have 'The Talk.'"

That show, of course, is in daytime and has five co-hosts, not one powerful female comedian owning the nighttime stage.

The effect, even for a resilient professional like Griffin, is dispiriting.

"I walk into the (meeting) room thinking, 'I'll give it a shot.' I leave the room thinking, 'I never had a chance,'" she said.

While the rest of TV catches up to diversity, with fictional portrayals daring to imagine women as U.S. presidents and mirror the reality of an African-American leader, networks simply are unwilling to roll the dice on either a female or minority in the lofty position of late-night host.

Rivers' brief tenure on the fledgling Fox network nearly 30 years ago remains a lonely emblem. The network cited low viewership for the cancellation and she blamed a business clash, but whatever happened, it was one chance and out for her and the rest of her gender.

Imagine if Conan O'Brien's NBC experience quashed the deal for white guys.

Cable, meanwhile, has inched forward with BET's Mo'Nique and E!'s Chelsea Handler (both shows are now ended), and the upcoming Comedy Central program with black comedian and writer Larry Wilmore.

To make it in the big leagues, a performer needs the unwavering support of power brokers including producers, agents and network executives, Griffin said, pointing to "Saturday Night Live" founder-guru Lorne Michaels' grooming of Jimmy Fallon and Seth Meyers for NBC late-night jobs.

'The Simpsons' toast 25 years

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Bart and Lisa Simpson, Chief Wiggum and son Ralph, bartender Moe and Apu from Kwik-E-Mart celebrated 25 years of "The Simpsons" in Hollywood on Friday.

Those characters are performed by three actors—Nancy Cartwright, Yeardley Smith and Hank Azaria—who hosted the world premiere of "The Simpsons Take the Bowl" at the Los Angeles concert venue the Hollywood Bowl. The program featured music, stars and reminiscences from TV's longest-running scripted show.

The Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, which featured several members wearing tall, blue Marge Simpson wigs, performed as classic clips from the show's past 25 seasons played on big screens above them. The 26th season of "The Simpsons" begins Sept. 28.

"Oh yeah, `The Simpsons' will go on, long after the human race is gone," sang "Weird" Al Yankovic, who performed "a little ditty about Homer and Marge."

Other guests appearing during the two-hour program included show creator Matt Groening, former "Simpsons" writer Conan O'Brien, comedian Jon Lovitz, pro skateboarder Tony Hawk and Oscar-winning composer Hans Zimmer.

Zimmer, wearing a jacket covered with Bart faces, performed the music he composed for the Oscar-nominated short film "The Longest Daycare," which shows how Maggie saves a butterfly from a classroom bully.

The entire Hollywood Bowl was Simpson-ified for the program, which continues on Saturday and Sunday night. Plastic doughnuts dangled above concertgoers' heads and life-sized cardboard cutouts of show characters were scattered throughout the venue.

New "Simpsons" animations were created just for the concert, including a peek at the Simpson family arriving at the Hollywood Bowl and Homer trying to resist pushing the "fireworks" button. Another bit showed Maggie launching the fireworks, and with that, pyrotechnics exploded above the famous Bowl shell.

Message of Appreciation

We, the Family of the Late

†Enrique Matagolai Litulumar

Would like to extend our sincerest gratitude for all the prayers, condolences, and support to all our family and friends near and far, our neighbors, and to all who donated and contributed in-kind to make our time of mourning less difficult.

A very special thanks to Fr. Sid Ogumoro, Olomwaay Family Choir, Cabrera Funeral Services, Marcy Cepeda, DPS, EMS Staff, CHC Doctors & Nurses, Priority Care Staff, Marianas Visiting Nurses, Nurse Erina Olkeriil, Oliver Santiago, Kevin Lennon, Hyatt Regency, Saipan Ice & Water Co., Cosmos Distributing, and all elected officials and candidates and to those that we may have forgotten to mention.

Thank you, Si Yu'us Ma'ase & Olomwaay

Theodora Rogopes Romolor-Litulumar and Children

Hillary Clinton among speakers at Maya Angelou memorial

NEW YORK (AP) — It was New York's turn to say goodbye to Maya Angelou.

Former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Nobel laureate Toni Morrison were among those sharing memories of the late author and Renaissance woman artist Friday at The Riverside Church in Manhattan, a few blocks west of a Harlem town house that Angelou owned in recent years.

From a stage brightened by beds of white roses, it was a chance for friends and family members to pay tribute before hundreds of attendees and for the city itself to claim at least part of her legacy.

AP

Nobel laureate Toni Morrison speaks during a memorial tribute for Maya Angelou at The Riverside Church in Manhattan, Friday Sept. 12, 2014 in New York.

Angelou, who died May 28 at age 86, had lived off and on in New York in the 1950s and '60s and visited often even after she moved to North Carolina, her primary residence over the latter half of her life. As a New Yorker, she appeared in numerous stage productions, was a member of the Harlem Writers Guild and directed the New York office of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

New York was the "center of her universe," said Howard Dodson Jr., director emeritus of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, to which Angelou donated her papers. From the city, she "radiated out to the world" and the world responded in kind. The program was organized by the Schomburg Center, The Riverside Church and Angelou's longtime publisher, Random House.

In June, Clinton's husband, former President Bill Clinton, was a featured speaker at a memorial held at Wake Forest University in North Carolina, where Angelou taught for 30 years. Hillary Clinton recalled on Friday that Angelou had encouraged her husband to run for president back in the early 1990s. She made no reference to a possible campaign for herself in 2016, but noted that Angelou had been supportive of her run in 2008, when then-Sen. Hillary Clinton of New York was defeated in the Democratic primary by Barack Obama.

Hillary Clinton said she first learned of Angelou through her celebrated memoir, "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," which came out in 1970. She read the book over and over and gave it to her mother, who, like Angelou, had been sent off as a little girl to live with her grandmother. She described Angelou's life as so vast that anyone could relate to it.

"You're Italian? Maya spoke Italian. You're a dancer? So was she. You're from San Francisco? She conducted a street car there," Clinton said. "She knew everyone, lived everywhere, read everything and felt it all."

Morrison, a friend of Angelou's for more than 40 years, said that her private generosity was even "more noteworthy" than her public achievements. She noted her respect for the "server and served," the humble and the elite. She remembered her laugh, her smile, the holding of hands, with "no words, no winks, no nods." And she was grateful for Angelou's "soothing voice, on the telephone, at the exact moment when you needed it most."

"Maya Angelou was the first non-family member to call me out of the blue when my son (Slade) died (in 2010)," said Morrison, who last fall presented Angelou an honorary National Book Award. "We had a short, poignant conversation. I was surprised, and I was thrilled, and I was calmed by that call."

In Loving memory of

† Abel Vincenzo Olopai Pellegrino

Born to life on December 01, 1995

Called to Eternal Life on September 09, 2014

In His New Life, He Now Joins His:
Parents : †Anthony and †Eileen Olopai Pellegrino
Grandparents : †Abel Rabauliman Olopai and
†Carmen Kotomor Olopai
†Vincenzo and †Concetta Lena Pellegrino
Uncles and Aunties:
†Titus K. Olopai and †Jude K. Olopai
†Helen K. Olopai and †Irene O. Borja

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:
Brother : Julian Apollonius O. Pellegrino
Sister : Prunella Limmopi O. Pellegrino
Step Mom : Mila Parchamento Pellegrino

He will be greatly missed by his Uncles, Aunties and cousins:
Miki P. Ranjo (Andrew/Regina, Andrea, Tiana)
Niel Pellegrino
Shirley O. Calvo and Dan Santos (Richly/Kaime)
Delfina O. and Michael Outland (Carmen Christine/Daniel, Christopher)
Jean O. and Mark Rabauliman (Sophia Miley)
Joseph F. Borja (Xavier, Joshua)

Godparents: Judge Kenneth and Domie Govendo

Mass of Intentions are being celebrated each morning at 6:00am at Kristo Rai Church in Garapan and Nightly Rosary is being prayed at 7:30pm.

The arrival of his mortal remains from Honolulu, HI. and funeral services will be announced at a later date.

Please joins us in prayers,

Mila Parchamento, Julian Olopai, and Prunella Olopai Pellegrino and Families

Med director out at clinic that treated Rivers

NEW YORK (AP)—The head of the outpatient surgery facility where Joan Rivers went into cardiac arrest during a routine procedure is no longer at the clinic.

A spokeswoman for Yorkville Endoscopy said Friday that Dr. Lawrence Cohen is no longer the facility's medical director, nor is he performing procedures there.

Rivers

The spokeswoman did not elaborate on the circumstances surrounding Cohen's departure.

Cohen, a respected gastroenterologist, did not return telephone messages. An email to Cohen's account at Mount Sinai Hospital bounced back.

Rivers died Sept. 4 at Mount Sinai Hospital, a week after going into cardiac arrest. The sharp-tongued comedian, talk show host and fashionista was 81.

The state health department has said it's investigating "the whole matter." A spokesman for the department did not immediately have an update on the investigation Friday.

The city medical examiner's office is also investigating. A spokeswoman for the office said this week that a determination on the cause and manner of Rivers' death are pending further studies.

Cohen has been listed in New York state records as a co-owner of Yorkville Endoscopy.

He has taught at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, contributed to more than 150 books and articles on gastroenterology and lectured on various topics, including colorectal cancer screening and endoscopic sedation, according to a biography posted on the clinic's website.

There are no disciplinary actions on Cohen's record and his license is current, according to state records.

A Mount Sinai spokesman said Cohen no longer teaches there, but still has a professional relationship with the hospital.

"Dr. Lawrence Cohen is a voluntary physician with admitting privileges at The Mount Sinai Hospital," spokesman Sid Disnay said. "He maintains a private practice."

An emotional Beyonce, Jay Z end tour in Paris

AP
Beyonce and JAY Z perform during the Beyonce and Jay Z - On the Run tour at Stade De France on Friday, Sept. 13, 2014, in Paris, France.

PARIS (AP)—An emotional Beyonce was in tears as she and husband Jay Z wrapped up their "On the Run" stadium tour Saturday night in Paris, where the duo said they got engaged years ago.

The performers told the audience at Stade de France that Paris was also where their 2-year-old daughter, Blue Ivy, was conceived.

"We love Paris. It's special to us because we got engaged here and this is where baby Blue was conceived," the rap star said.

Beyonce and Jay Z were married in 2008.

Nicki Minaj joined Beyonce onstage for their collaboration, "Flawless," which excited the crowd of nearly 80,000. Beyonce and Jay Z off kicked the three-hour show with "'03 Bonnie & Clyde." They also performed the hits "Crazy In Love," "Single Ladies," "Big Pimpin," "Dirt Off Your Shoulder" and "Drunk In Love."

"I'm your biggest fan. I love you," a teary eyed Beyonce, 33, said looking to Jay Z, 44. He replied: "Greatest entertainer in the world. I love her. She's my wife."

The Saturday night concert mirrored the sentiments from last month's MTV Video Music Awards, where a teary Beyonce was joined onstage by Jay Z and Blue Ivy, amid the numerous rumors surrounding their marriage.

The Paris show was being filmed for an HBO special to air in September. The duo also performed Friday in Paris.

Beyonce and Jay Z kicked off the "On the Run" tour in June.

Miss America contestants showcase shoes in parade

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)—Contestants vying for the Miss America title showed off some fancy footwear along a New Jersey boardwalk.

The traditional "Show Us Your Shoes" parade on Saturday featured 53 Miss America hopefuls riding down Atlantic City's boardwalk in convertibles, each sporting creatively decorated shoes to evoke their home state.

The Press of Atlantic City (http://bit.ly/1sNaGkz) says Miss Louisiana, Lacey Sanchez, wore feathered magenta and green stilettos and carried a feathery umbrella in a nod to New Orleans' Mardi Gras tradition.

Miss Oregon, Rebecca Anderson, had tiny bicycles on her shoes and wore a bike helmet since Portland is known as a bike-friendly city.

The next Miss America will be crowned during Sunday night's nationally televised finale.

Pia Zadora to have ankle surgery after accident

LAS VEGAS (AP)—According to her spokeswoman, entertainer Pia Zadora is resting comfortably at a Las Vegas hospital with serious injuries after a fall from a golf cart near her home.

Spokeswoman Eileen Koch says the singer-actress remained in intensive care at University Medical Center.

Zadora suffered a head injury and a compound ankle fracture in a fall from a golf cart driven by her teenage son near their Las Vegas home on Thursday evening.

Koch says Zadora hopes to travel to a Los Angeles hospital for ankle surgery after her condition improves in the next week or two.

Zadora was a child Broadway actress and appeared in movies before becoming a singer of popular standards.

The accident prompted the cancellation of her upcoming performances in Las Vegas.

Museum to put 3 O'Keeffe paintings up for auction

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)—The Georgia O'Keeffe Museum in New Mexico said Friday it will sell three works by the American modernist painter to benefit its acquisitions fund.

Going on the auction block is one of O'Keeffe's most well-known flower paintings—"Jimson Weed/White Flower No. 1." The painting is expected to fetch as much as $15 million when Sotheby's offers it as the centerpiece of its American art sale in New York in November.

The other two works are "On the Old Santa Fe Road" and "Untitled (Skunk Cabbage)." Those paintings are expected to bring in $3.7 million combined.

The larger-than-life image of the white bloom of the jimson weed will be on view in Los Angeles and Hong Kong before returning to New York for the auction.

"It's a difficult sacrifice to let it go, but that's part of the reason it was selected," said Cody Hartley, the Santa Fe museum's director of curatorial affairs. "We tried to select the ones that have strong appeal in the market so we could get the best result possible."

Hartley explained that auctioning the pieces will substantially boost the museum's acquisitions endowment as well as the museum's ability to be more competitive when pursuing iconic O'Keeffe works that aren't already part of the collection.

The current auction record for an O'Keeffe work is $6.2 million, set at Christie's New York in May 2001.

Museum officials said the decision to put the works up for auction included a thoughtful process that has taken more than a year. The auction is supported by the donor and was unanimously approved by the museum's board of directors.

Nicholas Sparks tests TV with 'Deliverance Creek'

NEW YORK (AP)—Nicholas Sparks' romance-drama novels have already found a second life as film adaptations. Now the best-selling author is turning to television.

Sparks is executive producer of the TV movie "Deliverance Creek," premiering Saturday on Lifetime (8 p.m. EDT). He says television seemed a natural progression because 10 of his novels, including "The Notebook," have been or are in production for films.

"I suppose it's just sort of evolved over time," Sparks said in a recent interview. The author said television gives him a new platform "to tell stories that I probably wouldn't tell" with books.

"Deliverance Creek," starring Lauren Ambrose ("Six Feet Under"), is a departure for Sparks because it isn't a romance and isn't set in North Carolina. And he didn't write it. The drama about a widow and mother of three who is determined to protect her family and land during the Civil War was written by Melissa Carter ("Mistresses," ''The Lottery").

Sparks

"We wanted to go right out the gate with something that wasn't one of my novels 'cause if you do one of my novels, then everyone thinks, 'Well, that's all it's going to be,'" Sparks said.

Instead, Sparks said he envisions his production company working on TV and film projects from a variety of sources. Nicholas Sparks Productions co-produced film adaptations of his books "Safe Haven" and "The Best of Me," which opens in theaters next month. He said the company has also acquired the rights to remake the 1971 film "Brian's Song."

Sparks said there will be a common thread to the projects with a focus on strong, complex and convincing characters and elements of love and loss because "my novels also do that."

Readers take Abby to task for answer to obese woman

DEAR ABBY: Your response to "Offended Daughter" (Aug. 10), whose mother didn't like her lounging in a bikini top at her house because of her weight, was inconsiderate, irresponsible and, frankly, offensive. You started off well, advising her to consider her mother's preference because it's her house, but your second paragraph took a wrong turn.

You used your column to imply she should not feel comfortable in her own skin. You assumed her doctor thinks she's unhealthy, knowing nothing about her other than the fact she's 60 to 70 pounds more than "average." You assumed she was "complacent" and her weight is a problem, even though you do not have access to her medical history and are not a physician. That response serves no purpose other than to fat-shame "Offended Daughter."

Even if she is unhealthy, if she weighed two or three times what she does now, even if she lies around all day in that bikini eating potato chips and ice cream sundaes, she still deserves respect as a human being. She deserves advice without judgment.

LINDA IN COLUMBUS, OHIO

DEAR LINDA: Thousands of readers in newspapers and online wrote to tell me how angry they were about my response to that letter, accusing me of "fat-shaming." If anyone was hurt by my reply, I sincerely apologize, because my remarks were not meant to be rude or disrespectful. When I called the young woman after that column ran to apologize if I had hurt her feelings and read her my response to her letter, she told me she was not offended.

When I answer questions, it is my responsibility to be honest and direct. As anyone who has read my column knows, I am not always politically correct. When I saw her statement that she was 60 to 70 pounds overweight -- which is obese -- and "comfortable in her own skin," my reaction was alarm. If she doesn't become proactive NOW, by the time she's 35 she could be far heavier.

Everyone knows the many health complications associated with obesity, so I won't list them. And while not everyone develops complications, in general, the greater a person's weight, the greater the LIKELIHOOD of developing them. While losing weight may be challenging, as I know from personal experience, it's important to make beneficial lifestyle changes to promote healthy weight, just as it is important to have healthy self-esteem.

That young woman needs to have a frank talk with her doctor about what's causing her to be so heavy. I told her that when I talked to her. I also suggested it might be helpful to consult a nutritionist.

As to my comment about her mother, I strongly suspect what I said is true, and I'll stand by it until I hear from the woman telling me different.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

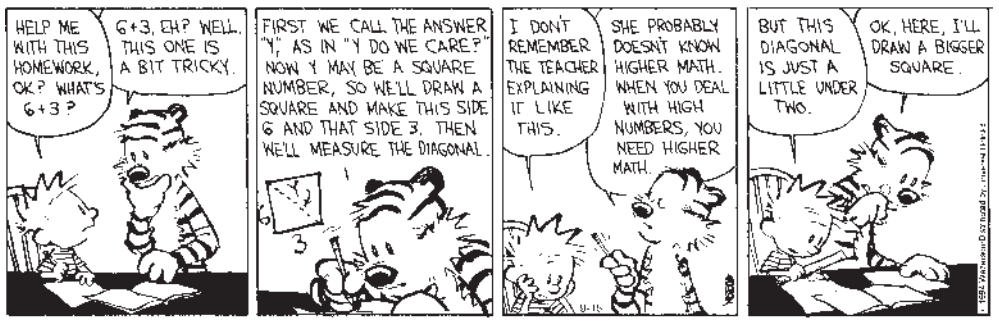
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

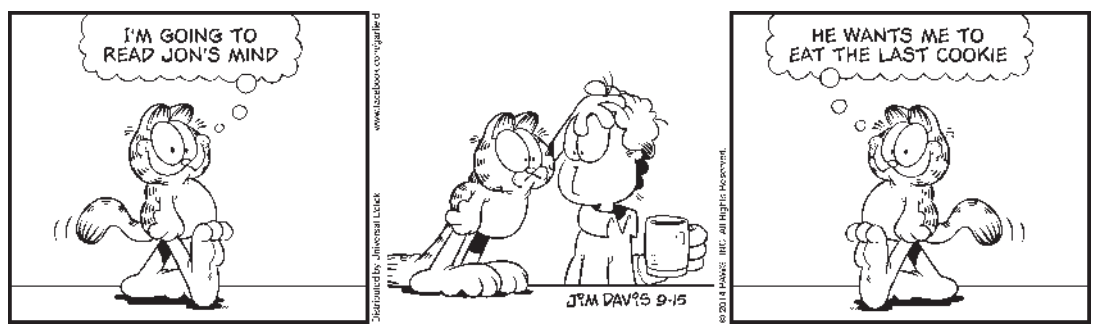
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


HELP ME WITH THIS HOMEWORK, OK? WHAT'S 6+3?
6+3, EH? WELL, THIS ONE IS A BIT TRICKY.
FIRST WE CALL THE ANSWER "Y," AS IN "Y DO WE CARE?" NOW Y MAY BE A SQUARE NUMBER, SO WE'LL DRAW A SQUARE AND MAKE THIS SIDE 6 AND THAT SIDE 3. THEN WE'LL MEASURE THE DIAGONAL.
I DON'T REMEMBER THE TEACHER EXPLAINING IT LIKE THIS.
SHE PROBABLY DOESN'T KNOW HIGHER MATH. WHEN YOU DEAL WITH HIGH NUMBERS, YOU NEED HIGHER MATH.
BUT THIS DIAGONAL IS JUST A LITTLE UNDER TWO.
OK, HERE, I'LL DRAW A BIGGER SQUARE.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

I'M MAKING PIZZAS FOR DINNER.
OOH! CAN I HELP?
SURE. I WAS ABOUT TO PUT THE TOMATO SAUCE ON.
BORING!
BORING?
TOTALLY. I VOTE FOR PEANUT BUTTER INSTEAD.
NOBODY USES PEANUT BUTTER ON A PIZZA.
I'M LESS A CHEF AND MORE A VISIONARY.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

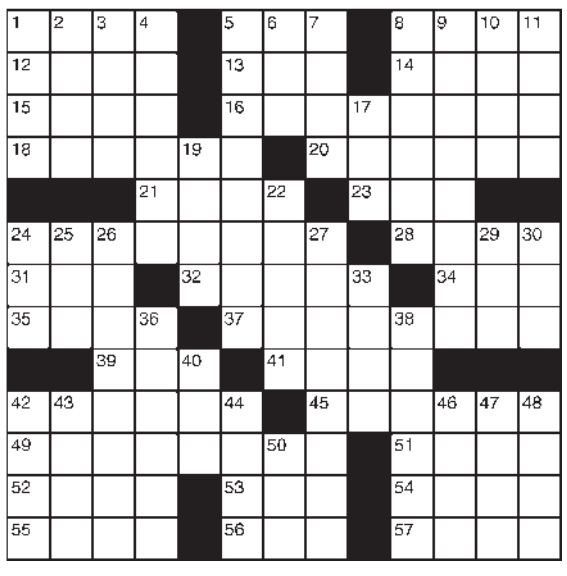
ACROSS
1 Garbage hauler
5 Unhappy
8 Knife handle
12 Circle dance
13 Japanese sash
14 Land measure
15 Works with
16 One of a set in the kitchen
18 Hollywood's Hedy
20 Admiration
21 Sow's mate
23 Club —
24 Church VIP
28 Ark builder
31 Oklahoma city
32 Arrangement
34 Multipurpose truck, for short
35 Campus mil. org.
37 Evil
39 Playwright Levin
41 Within (Pref.)
42 Stir up
45 Free of pretense
49 Staircase handrail
51 You, in Biblical days
52 Greek vowels
53 Smartphone's "brain"
54 "The Music Man" setting
55 Story
56 With it
57 Sea eagles

DOWN
1 Synagogue
2 Nostra lead-in
3 Utah city
4 Sushi bar condiment
5 Plato's teacher
6 Lawyers' org.
7 Eat in style
8 Hurry
9 Vented, as with bad behavior
10 Gratis
11 Phrase
17 Doctrine
19 Colonial flag maker
22 Tend a stubborn shoelace
24 Scratch
25 Bachelor's final answer?
26 Country-wide
27 Second-place finisher
29 Chowed down
30 That woman
33 Pocket bread
36 Sea voyage, perhaps
38 Raid
40 Donkey
42 Help in crime
43 — -tat-tat
44 Leave an impression
46 Thunder god
47 Chopped
48 Thumbs-up votes
50 Outer (Pref.)

Solution time: 21 mins.

■	C	A	M	P	S	■	S	A	P	P	H	O
M	A	I	O	U	T	■	O	D	I	O	U	S
C	N	E	D	G	E	■	I	I	N	S	E	■
M	I	M	C	■	A	L	S	O	■	■	D	O
■	■	■	M	A	M	E	■	S	I	■	■	■
A	D	O	■	G	C	A	R	■	S	■	A	M
T	O	B	E	C	R	N	O	T	T	O	B	E
V	A	S	E	■	S	T	U	B	■	N	E	W
■	■	I	K	E	■	O	L	A	F	■	■	■
A	D	D	■	M	U	S	E	■	A	P	E	D
R	A	I	S	E	S	■	T	U	X	E	D	O
C	L	A	I	R	E	■	T	R	E	A	D	S
H	E	N	R	Y	S	■	E	N	S	K	Y	■

Saturday's answer 9-15



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Prince Harry, 30; Tom Hardy, 37; Tommy Lee Jones, 68; Oliver Stone, 68.

Happy Birthday: Be practical, keep everything in perspective and get organized. Much can be accomplished if you are disciplined and prepare for future ventures with a moderate and simple approach. There is no room for escapism or exaggeration if you want to get ahead. Strive for completion and perfection in all that you do and you will find the road to victory. Your numbers are 3, 12, 15, 22, 33, 35, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Discussions will count, but be careful not to divulge personal information, especially when dealing with peers and colleagues. Focus on downtime and planning trips and activities with someone you love. Use your energy wisely and your mind intelligently. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Stop dwelling on imperfections and dissatisfaction. A positive mindset is required to be successful. Too much of anything will be frowned upon, so keep your life simple, moderate and balanced. Personal improvements will bring you the highest returns. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Emotions will surface, making it difficult for you to contain the way you feel or what you want. Tread carefully or someone will take advantage of your vulnerability. Don't believe everything you hear. Ask for proof or get what's being offered in writing. ✪✪✪

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Putter around home or visit friends. The less time you have to think about your troubles, the better. You are better off following a path that leads to unusual activities or encounters. Don't aggravate a situation that's festering. Time heals all wounds. ✪✪✪

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take charge and be a hero. A quick response and helpful attitude will be impressive. Put your skills to good use and keep your eyes open for a chance to advance. Your selfless gestures will be your ticket into an extraordinary opportunity. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Money matters will take an unpredictable turn. Check your bank balance before you make a questionable purchase. Unexpected personal changes are heading your way. Keep your emotions in check and stay levelheaded in order to avoid arguments. ✪✪

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Stop procrastinating and start moving. Take action and show your ability to wheel, deal and handle whatever comes your way with finesse and an entrepreneurial attitude. A change in the way people treat you is about to take place. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You can make smart financial gains if you invest in upgrading your assets. Don't let anyone confuse you. Once you've made up your mind, stick to it until you finish what you started. Resourcefulness is your ticket to freedom. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Ignore emotional changes that someone close to you is experiencing. Consider any alteration an adventure. The more receptive you are, the better off you will be. Don't let love turn into a burden when it should complement you and your lifestyle. ✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Avoid altering anything in your life for the time being. You will have difficulty making the right decision and confusion will set in. Consider long-term effects instead of what's unfolding in the moment. Look at the big picture. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): An open heart and mind will help you retrieve the information you require to make an important decision. Your financial prospects look good, and increasing your income through an unexpected source is likely. Move forward with optimism and enthusiasm. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You'll experience trouble getting along with others. Arguments will erupt and false information will lead you astray. Pull in the reins and refrain from getting into a deep discussion about something you know little about. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive and unpredictable. You are creative, detailed and sophisticated.

Eugenia's Web sites: *eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, eugenialast.com/blog/ for Eugenia's blog and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

4			2		5	7	1	
	2	1		6				9
	9				4			2
1					6	5		7
	7			1			3	
9		5	3					6
3			6				8	
2				8		4	7	
	5	9	4		1			3

Difficulty Level ★ 9/15

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

5	9	4	3	8	1	2	7	6
1	6	3	7	2	5	9	4	8
7	2	8	6	9	4	3	1	5
2	8	1	9	7	3	5	6	4
4	7	5	2	1	6	8	9	3
9	3	6	5	4	8	7	2	1
6	5	2	1	3	9	4	8	7
3	4	7	8	6	2	1	5	9
8	1	9	4	5	7	6	3	2

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 9/12

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

SAMPLES **Solution: 8 letters**

T	D	R	I	N	K	N	E	W	S	P	A	P	E	R
B	E	C	N	A	R	G	A	R	F	S	C	A	K	E
I	T	K	F	R	E	E	R	A	C	N	I	K	S	S
T	E	C	R	H	S	U	R	B	H	Ⓣ	O	O	T	U
E	R	H	E	A	O	F	F	E	R	S	Ⓡ	O	C	M
S	G	O	O	R	M	T	S	E	T	N	O	Ⓨ	U	E
E	E	C	J	O	E	R	T	N	A	T	D	S	D	S
G	N	O	U	A	P	A	E	I	H	E	I	R	O	C
A	T	L	I	M	S	M	L	P	O	C	E	A	R	O
R	R	A	C	T	E	P	A	D	U	C	P	E	P	L
E	I	T	E	L	O	S	O	H	I	S	A	E	Y	O
V	A	E	P	L	T	R	M	P	S	M	P	F	B	G
E	L	P	I	E	A	B	E	A	U	T	Y	F	A	N
B	U	S	I	N	E	S	S	P	L	A	N	O	B	E
S	H	L	T	I	F	O	R	M	U	L	A	C	N	G

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Baby, Beauty, Beverages, Bites, Business Plan, Cake, Cereal, Chocolate, Coffee, Cologne, Cream, Deodorant, Detergent, Drink, Formula, Fragrance, Free, Juice, Music, Nail Polish, Newspaper, Offers, Products, Recipes, Resume, Shampoo, Skin Care, Small, Soap, Supermarket, Supplements, Taste, Test, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Trial, Try

Last Saturday's Answer: Mr. Padre

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CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

1 Taekwondo Instructor
$10.00/hour. Email Resume to bluedragon@live.co.kr

(1) Operation Manager $9.50-$10/hr, and (3) Camera operators, Television, Video and Motion Picture - $5.55/hr. Mail Saipan TV Production, PMB 272 Box 10000 Saipan.

Ernst & Young (CNMI), Inc.
Position Title: Administrative/ Accounting Clerk
QUALIFICATIONS:
Holder of a Bachelor's Degree. Must have at least two (2) years work experience in public accounting office. Must have at least five (5) years work experience in administrative position and extensive exposure working with company executives Must have more than five (5) years experience in accounting work. Must be knowledgeable in income tax return preparation and compilation of financial statements. Must be knowledgeable in various accounting software such as Quickbooks, Peachtree, FAS & tax software. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience, beginning at $5.55/hour. Please mail your resume at P.O. Box 503198 Saipan, MP 96950.

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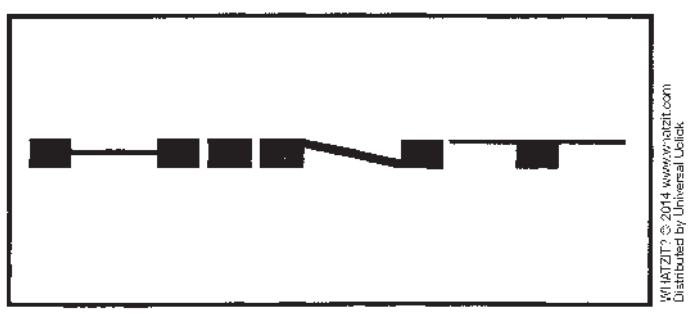

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Young steals home, Yanks end O's 6-game win streak

BALTIMORE (AP)—Chris Young stole home in his latest surprising September performance, and the New York Yankees beat AL East-leading Baltimore 3-2 Saturday, ending the Orioles' longest winning streak of the season at six.

The Yankees bounced back after being swept in a doubleheader Friday. New York stayed on the fringe of the wild-card race while Baltimore's magic number for clinching the division remained at five.

Cut by the New York Mets earlier this year as an extended slump, Young has seemed to deliver for the Yankees on a daily basis this week.

Young added his to recent bunch of extra-base hits when he doubled during a three-run second off Miguel Gonzalez (9-8). Speedy Antoan Richardson followed with an RBI single and then took off for second, beating the throw while Young scampered home without a return toss.

Shane Greene (5-3) improved to 4-0 in seven road starts this season, including a victory at Camden Yards in July. David Robertson earned his 36th save.

AP

New York Yankees' Chris Young (24) high-fives teammates in the dugout after he stole home and Antoan Richardson stole second base in the second inning of a baseball game against the Baltimore Orioles, Saturday, Sept. 13, 2014, in Baltimore.

Angels 5, Astros 2

In Anaheim, California, Jered Weaver earned his AL-leading 17th win, Mike Trout homered twice and the Angels reduced their magic number for clinching the AL West to four with a victory over the Astros.

The Angels extended their winning streak to 10 games — one off the franchise record set in 1964 — improving to a major league-best 93-55.

Weaver (17-8) allowed a run and four hits through seven innings with a season-high 12 strikeouts.

Huston Street pitched for the first time since Sept. 6, working a scoreless ninth for his 14th save after missing five games with a hamstring problem.

Scott Feldman (8-11) allowed two runs and eight hits in six innings.

Rangers 3, Braves 2

In Arlington, Texas, Rougned Odor's go-ahead double gave fellow rookie Lisalverto Bonilla a win in his first major league start, and the last-place Rangers handed the Braves another setback in their push for an NL wild-card spot.

Atlanta's Julio Teheran (13-12) was working on a no-hitter before a one-out single by Luis Sardinas in the sixth inning.

An error by left fielder Justin Upton kept the inning alive, and Elvis Andrus had an RBI single before Odor doubled to the warning track in left-center field, scoring Leonys Martin and Andrus.

Bonilla (1-0) allowed two runs and four hits in six innings. Neal Cotts pitched the ninth for his first save this season.

The Braves, who started the day three games behind Pittsburgh for the second NL wild-card spot, dropped to 2-6 on their nine-game road trip.

Blue Jays 6, Rays 3

In Toronto, Adam Lind hit a tiebreaking two-run homer in the seventh inning for Toronto, and Edwin Encarnacion also went deep.

Lind connected off Brad Boxberger (5-2) for his first homer since June 23 against the New York Yankees. He finished 2 for 3 with a walk and three RBIs.

Encarnacion then drove the first pitch he saw from Steve Geltz into the second deck in left for the eighth time this season the Blue Jays have hit back-to-back home runs.

R.A. Dickey (13-12) allowed three runs and four hits in seven innings to win his fourth straight decision. Casey Janssen got three outs for his 23rd save.

The Blue Jays improved to 8-3 in September.

Evan Longoria hit his 21st homer for Tampa Bay.

White Sox 5, Twins 1, first game; White Sox 7, Twins 6, second game

In Chicago, Dayan Viciedo hit a two-run homer in the ninth inning to lift the White Sox to a win over the Twins and a sweep of their doubleheader.

Jose Abreu started the winning rally with a leadoff walk against Glen Perkins (3-3).

Trevor Plouffe and Oswaldo Arcia homered for Minnesota. Pinch-hitter Kurt Suzuki had a tiebreaking RBI double in the top of the ninth against Jake Petricka (1-4).

In the first game, Jose Quintana struck out a career-high 13 and Alexei Ramirez homered to lead the White Sox.

Quintana (8-10) allowed a run and two walks in seven innings.

Phil Hughes (15-10) had a career-high 11 strikeouts for Minnesota. He allowed five runs — three earned — in seven innings.

Cubs 6, Pirates 4

In Pittsburgh, rookies Javier Baez and Matt Szczur homered, and the Cubs snapped a seven-game losing streak with a victory over the Pirates.

Felix Doubront (2-1) pitched six scoreless innings for the Cubs in his third start since he was acquired in a trade with the Boston Red Sox.

Russell Martin hit a three-run double in the eighth for Pittsburgh, which had won seven of eight.

Pittsburgh's Jeff Locke (7-5) allowed three runs in 5 1-3 innings.

Tigers 5, Indians 4

In Detroit, Alex Avila hit a two-out, two-run homer in the eighth inning and the Tigers kept their slim AL Central lead, beating the Indians.

The Tigers remained a half-game ahead of Kansas City, which topped Boston 7-1.

Avila sent a full-count pitch from reliever Bryan Shaw (5-4) into the right-field stands for his 11th home run.

Victor Martinez hit his career-best 31st home run for Detroit.

Joba Chamberlain (2-5) pitched an inning of scoreless relief. Joe Nathan worked the ninth for his 31st save.

Nationals 10, Mets 3

In New York, Bryce Harper homered, Ian Desmond drove in three runs and the Washington Nationals moved a step closer to their second NL East title in three years with a victory over the Mets.

Anthony Rendon added to his huge series with four hits as Washington reduced its magic number to six for clinching the division. Denard Span had a two-run homer in the ninth inning and scored three times.

Doug Fister (14-6) needed only 75 pitches to get through six. He gave up three runs — two earned — and five hits in his second consecutive win after losing three straight starts.

Zack Wheeler (10-10) Wheeler was charged with six runs and seven hits in four-plus innings. He was 7-1 with a 2.21 ERA in his previous 13 starts since June 29.

Royals 7, Red Sox 1

In Kansas City, Missouri, Jeremy Guthrie retired the final 17 batters he faced, Omar Infante had three hits and drove in two runs, and the Royals beat the Red Sox.

Manager Ned Yost overhauled his batting order and got immediate results. The Royals scored seven runs for the first time since Aug. 19, a span of 22 games.

Nori Aoki, batting second for the first time this season, and Alex Gordon, who snapped an 0-for-22 skid, each had two hits, scored a run and drove in a run.

Guthrie (11-11), who was roughed up for eight runs on 10 hits in 2 2-3 innings in a loss Monday at Detroit, allowed three hits and one unearned run in eight innings.

Rubby De La Rosa (4-7) was pulled after four innings and 65 pitches, permitting five runs on six hits.

Athletics 3, Mariners 2, 10 innings

In Seattle, Jed Lowrie drew a bases-loaded walk with two outs in the 10th inning to force in the tiebreaking run and lift the Athletics to a victory over Seattle.

Mariners reliever Fernando Rodney (1-6) came on in the 10th and walked Coco Crisp to open the inning. After Crisp advanced to second on a sacrifice, Rodney intentionally walked Josh Donaldson and then Alberto Callaspo drew another walk to load the bases.

Rodney struck out Brandon Moss looking before walking Lowrie on four pitches to force in the go-ahead run.

Luke Gregerson (5-1) pitched a perfect ninth to earn the win.

Dodgers 17, Giants 0

In San Francisco, Zack Greinke pitched six scoreless innings and hit his fourth career home run, and the Dodgers romped past the Giants to build on their lead in the NL West.

Greinke (15-8) gave up hits to two of the first three batters he faced then retired 16 of the next 18. He struck out five.

The Dodgers extended their division lead to two games over the Giants.

Jose Uribe and Scott Van Slyke homered, Hanley Ramirez went 4 for 5 and Matt Kemp had three hits and three RBIs for the Dodgers.

Tim Hudson (9-11) allowed six runs and eight hits in the shortest outing of his 16-year career.

Diamondbacks 10, Padres 4

In Phoenix, Mark Trumbo had three hits and three RBIs, leading the Diamondbacks to a win over the sloppy San Diego Padres.

The Diamondbacks took control early, scoring six runs off All-Star Tyson Ross in the first two innings.

Chase Anderson (9-6) pitched five innings, allowing two runs and four hits. He struck out five and walked two.

Ross (13-14) was charged with four earned runs and five hits. He struck out four and walked two in his shortest outing of the season.

Cardinals 5, Rockies 4

In St. Louis, Matt Holliday homered in the first inning for the second straight night and Shelby Miller pitched six solid innings and had an RBI double, leading the Cardinals over the Rockies.

Matt Carpenter added a two-run homer in the second for the NL Central leaders, who have won 12 in a row at home in the final month of the season dating to last Sept. 14.

The Cardinals are 9-4 this month and took a 3 1-2 game lead over Pittsburgh.

Miller (10-9) has allowed one run his last 20 innings over three starts, with a career-best 17 2-3 inning scoreless streak ending on Ben Paulsen's RBI single in the fourth.

Holliday hit his 18th homer to straightaway center off Franklin Morales (6-8).

Reds 5, Brewers 1

In Milwaukee, David Holmberg pitched six effective innings, Billy Hamilton hit a two-run triple and the Reds snapped the Brewers' three-game winning streak.

Holmberg (1-1) allowed two hits in his first major league win, including Aramis Ramirez's fourth-inning homer. The left-hander has yielded one earned run in 12 2-3 innings over three September appearances.

Cincinnati scratched out two runs in the fourth on a bases-loaded walk and sacrifice fly off Yovani Gallardo (8-10). The speedy Hamilton broke open a one-run game with his triple to the gap in right-center in the seventh.

Phillies 2, Marlins 1

In Philadelphia, Marlon Byrd hit an RBI double and threw out a runner at the plate, leading Kyle Kendrick and the Phillies over the Marlins.

Miami lost its fourth straight game and second minus star slugger Giancarlo Stanton, hit in the face by a fastball Thursday.

Byrd and rookie Maikel Franco drove in runs in the first inning.

Down by a run, the Marlins threatened in the seventh when Kendrick (9-12) gave up a pair of singles. He was pulled after striking out Jeff Mathis and Jake Diekman relieved.

Pinch-hitter Reed Johnson singled to right for the 1,000th hit of his career, but Byrd kept Philadelphia in front by nailing Justin Bour at the plate with a strong, one-hop throw.

Mayweather remains unbeaten despite bite complaint

BOXING

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Floyd Mayweather Jr. refused to allow Marcos Maidana to turn their rematch into a brawl, boxing masterfully to win a 12-round unanimous decision Saturday night in their welterweight title fight.

Mayweather remained unbeaten in 47 pro fights, drawing upon his 18 years of experience and frustrating Maidana the entire night. The fight was a marked contrast to their first bout in May, when Maidana roughed Mayweather up in a close fight.

Two ringside judges scored it 116-111 for Mayweather, while the third had it 115-112. The Associated Press had it 117-110.

"I felt sharper in the first fight, my rhythm was off," Mayweather said. "I got hit with some shots tonight I shouldn't have gotten hit with. But that comes with the sport."

The fight was held up momentarily in the eighth round when Mayweather said that Maidana bit him on the wrist while the two were tied up. Maidana was penalized for tripping Mayweather in the 10th round.

Mayweather complained long after the first fight in May that Maidana was a dirty fighter, and complained even more when Maidana seemed to try to hit him below the belt in a clinch in the eighth round, then apparently tried to bite him.

Mayweather immediately jumped back and gestured to referee Kenny Bayless that Maidana bit him on the wrist. He went to his corner and showed Bayless where the bite was, then went over to the Showtime announcers table to complain.

"He bit me!" Mayweather yelled.

Maidana would later be penalized a point for tackling Mayweather as he tried desperately to find something that would work against the undefeated champion.

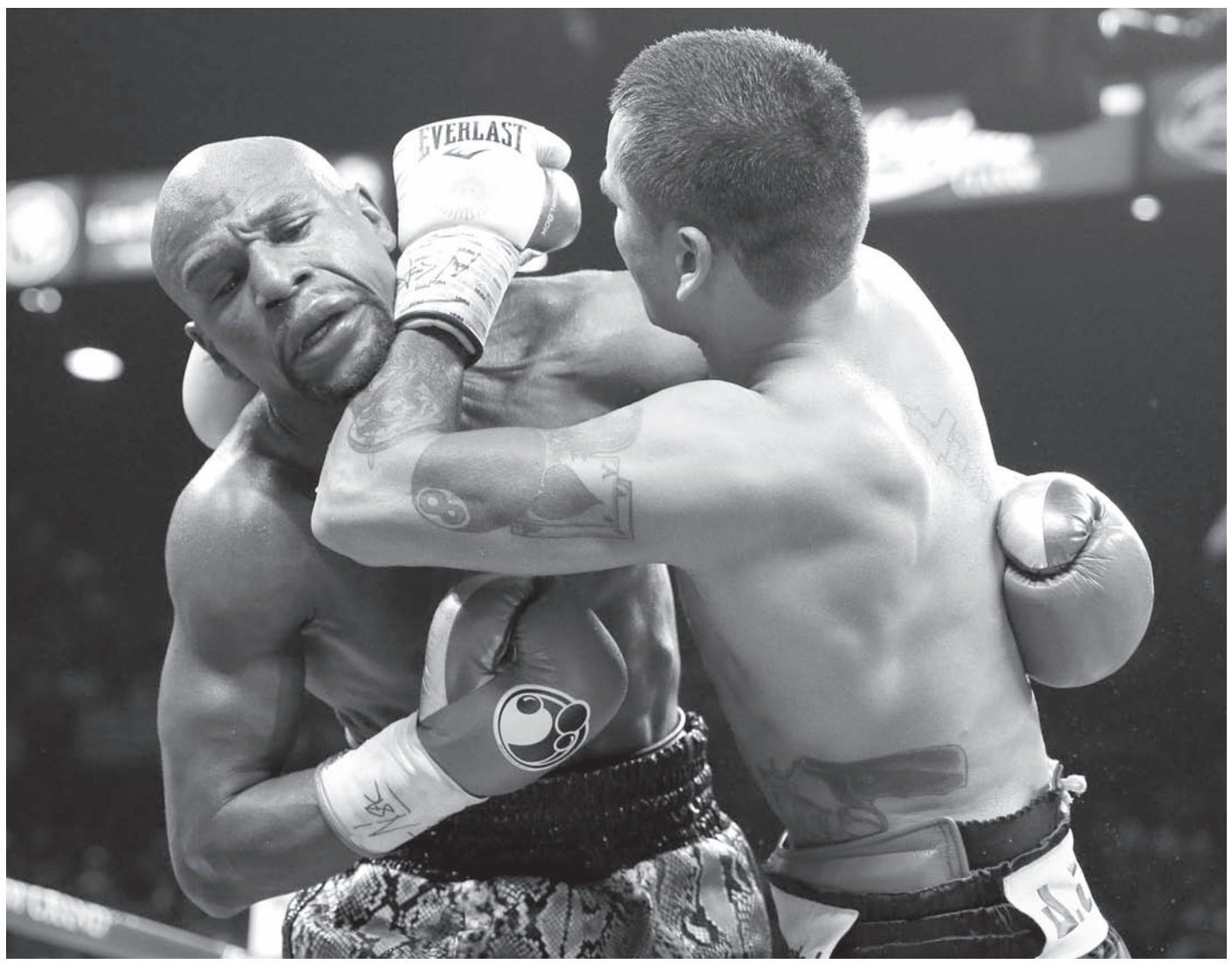
By the end of the ninth round, though, Maidana was so out of sorts he went to the wrong corner when the bell rang.

"I thought I won the fight," Maidana said.

Maidana didn't win it because he spent many of the early rounds trying to figure out a way to get inside like he did the first fight in May. Mayweather kept him at a distance, circling around and landing left jabs and hooks, then scampering out of the way before Maidana could respond.

Punch stats showed Maidana throwing far more punches (572-326) while Mayweather landed more (166-128). Mayweather's defensive genius showed when he was hit with only 22 percent of punches while landing 51 percent of his own.

"I do have some bumps and bruises," Mayweather said. "But I listened to my dad (trainer Floyd Mayweather Sr.) who always said hit and not get hit. That's the way you last in this sport."



AP

Marcos Maidana elbows Floyd Mayweather during their WBA welterweight and WBC super welterweight title fight, Saturday, Sept. 13, 2014, in Las Vegas.

Mayweather earned at least $32 million for the rematch, bringing his total purses to more than $100 million in the last year. Though he wasn't marked up, he was upset over the alleged bite to the wrist.

"We were tangled in the center of the ring and I didn't realize what it was. Then I saw that he bit me," Mayweather said. "After the eighth round my fingers were numb, I couldn't use my left hand."

Maidana denied he bit Mayweather.

"How can he say I bit the glove with my mouthpiece?" Maidana asked. "I'm not a dog."

Mayweather was a 6-1 favorite in the fight, even though Maidana gave him a tough time in their first bout. He showed why in the early rounds as he moved and boxed while Maidana chased him futilely around the ring.

Mayweather was determined not to let the fight become anything like the first, when Maidana went after him wildly and mauled him at every opportunity. For the second fight, Mayweather came out boxing and did so beautifully during the opening rounds.

Maidana was more cautious early than he was in the first fight, willing to take his time to find Mayweather. He finally began to pick up the pace in the fourth round, trapping Mayweather on the ropes and landing some shots to his body and head.

Mayweather, though, showed he learned his lessons from the first fight, when he was cut over his right eye and took a lot of shots to the top of his head. A defensive wizard, he fought moving sideways and backward, throwing his left jab out and slipping the big punches thrown by the Argentine challenger.

Adrian Peterson case creates new crisis for NFL

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Minnesota Vikings star running back Adrian Peterson's booking on a child abuse charge Saturday has created another crisis for the embattled NFL, already derided for not responding strongly enough to acts of domestic violence by its players.

It also has touched off a national debate about the role of corporal punishment in parenting.

In the eyes of a Texas grand jury, Peterson crossed the line when he repeatedly struck his son with a tree branch, or switch, in May. Peterson's attorney has said he has never run from what happened—and that Peterson was inflicting the same discipline he endured as a child.

"Obviously, parents are entitled to discipline their children as they see fit, except when that discipline exceeds what the community would say is reasonable," Montgomery County Prosecutor Phil Grant said about 12 hours after Peterson was booked and released from jail on $15,000 bond. He is charged with causing injury to a child age 14 or younger.

Peterson, one of the NFL's most popular players and widely considered one of the best running backs to ever play, flew from Minnesota to Houston in the early morning hours after authorities indicted him on Friday evening. He has a home in both locations.

The Vikings almost immediately decided to deactivate him for Sunday's game against the New England Patriots, and NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy said on Saturday that Peterson's case "will be reviewed under the NFL's personal conduct policy."

The situation comes as the NFL proceeds with a self-commissioned investigation by a former FBI director into how it handled the case of Ray Rice, who knocked his then-fiancee unconscious in an Atlantic City elevator. Rice was released Monday from the Baltimore Ravens after a video surfaced that showed the violence. The NFL said it hadn't seen the video before then, but a law enforcement source told the AP it was sent to a league executive's office in April and provided a voice mail confirming it was received.

Unlike Rice's situation, Peterson's case is complicated by his stance that he meant his son no harm but rather was applying the same discipline he experienced growing up.

"Adrian is a loving father who used his judgment as a parent to discipline his son. He used the same kind of discipline with his child that he experienced as a child growing up in East Texas," Peterson's attorney, Rusty Hardin, said.

Steve Eudey, who coached Peterson as a young boy in Palestine, Texas, and has remained a family friend, said he has heard stories from Peterson about his father Nelson "being a firm disciplinarian."

"Some of the things his dad did to him was to make him tough," Eudey told The Associated Press.

Eudey said he had yet to speak to Peterson since his arrest, but said his actions were consistent with the type of upbringing he had.

"I will go to my grave defending Adrian, but at the same time you can't harm a child, either," Eudey said. "I know that was never his intent."

Grant, the Texas prosecutor, said the grand jury felt the charge was warranted after spending several weeks reviewing "lots of evidence."

It's not unusual for people subjected to physical discipline as children to use corporal punishment against their own children, experts say, and courts will sometimes consider that as a mitigating factor when sentencing an abuser. Peterson faces up to two years in prison and a $10,000 fine if found guilty.

News of Peterson's charges led several prominent athletes to tweet about their experiences with corporal punishment when they were children.

"Am I the only one that got hit with a switch? I had to go outside and pick my own switch. It taught values, respect (and) accountability," former NBA star Tracy McGrady said. But he later qualified those remarks, tweeting, "Disciplining a child is vital. Of course any early physical punishment should be within reason, not overboard, and inside certain boundaries."

While the legal process plays out, the NFL is facing a potential test case for the tougher penalties it declared last month for players involved with domestic violence.

Commissioner Roger Goodell announced an initial offense will draw a six-week suspension without pay, though "more severe discipline will be imposed if there are aggravating circumstances such as the presence or use of a weapon, choking, repeated striking, or when the act is committed against a pregnant woman or in the presence of a child."

It is not clear if Peterson's case will invoke those penalties.

Corporal punishment is legal in Texas, and the law spells out that non-deadly force against a child by a parent or guardian is permissible.

But the punishment is abusive if it causes injury. While a blow that causes a red mark that fades in an hour is not likely to be judged abusive, a blow that leaves a bruise, welt, or swelling, or requires medical attention, could be judged abusive. The child's injuries will likely be under scrutiny as the case proceeds.

The guidelines also say while spanking with the bare, open hand is least likely to be abusive, use of an instrument "is cause for concern."

The Vikings jumped ahead of the NFL and the legal system by shelving Peterson for the game Sunday. Two other teams—Carolina and San Francisco—have taken heat for allowing players involved in alleged recent domestic violence incidents to continue to play.

The team—and the league—will likely face scrutiny as they decide whether Peterson returns to the field as the legal process plays out. As of Saturday, no decision had been made about his outlook this season, and no court date had been set in Texas.

US, Serbia to meet for Basketball World Cup gold

AP

United States's Kenneth Faried, left, dunks the ball in front of Lithuania's Jonas Valanciunas during their Basketball World Cup semifinal match at the Palau Sant Jordi in Barcelona, Spain, Thursday, Sept. 11, 2014.

MADRID (AP)—After a difficult summer, the Basketball World Cup has been pretty easy for the U.S.

No games have been close in the final minutes, and only one was even competitive entering the final period. This depleted team that was supposed to be vulnerable has instead been invincible.

The Americans believe that tough game is coming Sunday—and so does Serbia, their opponent.

"They have supreme confidence and just that expectation, I think, that they feel like they're going to win," U.S. guard Stephen Curry said, "and we have that same mentality as well."

Serbia is the only team left that can stop the Americans from repeating as world champions, looking to regain a title that's meant so much in its basketball history.

"They are great, good team, but for sure we won't go inside the game to lose," Serbian guard Milos Teodosic said.

The Americans were supposed to be here, though the road to the final was expected to be tougher once Kevin Durant, Kevin Love and Blake Griffin withdrew, and Paul George broke his right leg. But the opponent is a surprise.

The Serbians barely qualified for the 24-team field as the seventh-place finisher in last year's European championship. They were only 2-3 in the group stage, advancing as the fourth and final team from the powerful Group A, but have peaked since the games became win or go home.

A 90-72 rout of previously unbeaten Greece in the round of 16 was followed by an 84-56 victory over Brazil in the quarterfinals. Then the Serbians built a huge lead and held on Friday for a 90-85 victory over France, which had beat then in the group stage and knocked out tournament co-favorite Spain in the quarters.

"They're just playing great basketball right now and actually it's beautiful to see. I hope I don't see that beauty tomorrow night," U.S. coach Mike Krzyzewski said. "But they've been playing lights-out basketball."

The Americans have been more dominant, averaging 101.5 points and winning by 32.5 per game. Their last two games had single-digit margins at halftime, and yet they ended up winning both by a combined 71 points.

"I cannot say we're going to win against the U.S, but I'm sure we're going to give all our best and try to fight, but it's going to be hard for sure," said former NBA center Nenad Krstic.

The Americans have never repeated as world champions. The last team to win titles consecutively was Yugoslavia in 1998 and 2002.

Krstic remembers cheering for his country mates during the latter game, held in the United States, at a gas station with his club team that was on a bus at the time. It was the last of a record five world titles won by Yugoslavia when Serbia competed as part of that nation.

The Serbians have retained that basketball passion since competing under their own flag — Curry played on the U.S. team that lost to host Serbia in the championship game of the 2007 under-19 tournament.

"It's tough winning silver that game, so hopefully we can be on the other side of it this time around," Curry said.

Serbia is already guaranteed its first medal at the senior level. The Serbians — whose Olympic committee president is former NBA center Vlade Divac — finished fourth in 2010.

"It means a lot because we are a basketball country," Krstic said. "Lots of people, whole country watch this game."

The Americans say it's just as important to them, especially after all the adversity they faced before the games began. USA Basketball chairman Jerry Colangelo has said a gold medal would be the sweetest one since he took over the program in 2005, since it seemed so in doubt as big name after big name passed on the trip to Spain.

"It's everything for us," U.S. forward James Harden said. "We came here with one thing on our mind, that's to win the gold medal. We came this far, doing an excellent job this far in this tournament. So one more game to complete our mission."

HITE

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pass from Butch Kaipat. Rolly Paraiso was called for the second infraction when he attempted to get out of two Island Floral defenders and was charged with a traveling violation.

After Paraiso's turnover, Island Floral was left with 19.6 seconds to orchestrate a crucial play. The deposed champion could have taken the last shot in the close match with the 24-second shot clock ticking, but Cesar Bisana saw daylight and attacked early from the left key. He overshot his mark, as Camacho's long arms provided the last line of defense for Hite. De Leon then beat the much taller Island Floral players for the rebound and was fouled by Butch Kaipat on his way down to protect the leather.

The Hite point guard went on to step on the foul line for two important charities and he survived the pressure, knocking in both to give his team a precarious 2-point cushion, 77-75, and force Island Floral to call its last time out with six seconds left on the clock.

When the game resumed, Pete Lizama did the inbound and passed the ball to a teammate on the right corner before the leather reached the hands of Bisana in the paint. Bisana curled, but had two Hite players on him and decided to kick the ball out to Jerome Norita, who pulled up for a triple from the left key. Norita's shot had a good line, but fell just a little bit short of making it to the net. The ball then bounced to the floor as time expired and Hite managed to steal the win.

Camacho and De Leon saved Hite Jinro's season as they helped complete the team's come-from-behind victory in the fourth quarter. Hite was once behind by 12 points, 63-51, after Norita completed an and-1 play, with still 8:13 left in the clock.

Sensing trouble, Hite sued for time and De Leon drilled a triple to start the rally. His two charities capped a back-breaking 14-2 rally and put Hite back in the lead since the first half, which ended with the eventual finalist on top 35-26.

Island Floral momentarily regained the upper hand, 66-65 and had the lead the last time, 75-73, after Kaipat intercepted Babauta's pass to Paraiso and completed the defensive stop with a fastbreak layup off a feed from Lizama.

Meanwhile, San Antonio also met a tough competition in Saipan Ice in the first semis game. The first finalist trailed in the first half before getting some cushion in the second to nail the 6-point winning margin.

San Antonio spread the wealth in the second half to offset the 43-point explosion of Saipan Ice's Dan Barcinas. Six players scored in double figures for San Antonio, while only Jack Lizama and Derrick Rangamar backed up Barcinas. Lizama chipped in 28, but was scoreless at the last half of the fourth canto, while Rangamar contributed 12. Jack Aranda paced San Antonio with 21, while Barbo reported back for duty after missing a couple of games and tallied 17. Mike Arciaga registered 14, while Kobe Mendoza and Jun Fidelino added 12 and 10, respectively.

First Game

San Antonio 103 – Aranda 21, Barbo 17, Arciaga 14, Mendoza 12, Fidelino 10, Factor 8, Feria 7, Alegre 4, Espinosa 2.

Saipan Ice 97 – Barcinas 43, Lizama 28, Rangamar 12, Kaipat 8, Standish 6.

Scoring by quarters: 18-19, 42-43, 68-65, 103-97.

Second Game

Hite Jinro 77 – Paraiso 18, De Leon 15, Camacho 10, Mizer 7, Lampkin 6, Babauta 6, Lauron 4, Sison 3, T. Montes 2,

Island Floral 75 – Bisana 23, Norita 18, Kaipat 11, Capalad 4, Tabora 4, Lizama 2, Aguon 2.

Scoring by quarters: 18-14, 35-26, 49-56, 77-75.

ALI'I

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attempted a drive to regain the lead for Flip Top, but this time missed, while Devero also faltered on his jumper on the other end with Ali'i's 24-second shot clock ticking, keeping the standoff.

Devero then redeemed himself and broke the deadlock when he went coast to coast for a layup after a big defensive stop on a driving Jun Estolas in Flip Top's next possession, under the one-minute mark.

Now down by 2, 75-77, Flip Top had five successive possessions, but failed to cash in to force another tie. Mel Capalad lost the ball on his way to the basket, but fortunately the leather hit an Ali'i player before it went to the baseline. In their second possession, Estolas drove to the basket from the right wing and tried to get a foul from his defender. He did, but the referee ruled out Estolas was still down the floor when the infraction was committed. The foul was only Ali'i's third, giving the team two more before Flip Top could troop to the stripe. Ali'i used another foul in the next play and again Estolas argued it should have been a shooting foul, but the referee saw otherwise.

Finally, in its fourth straight possession, Flip Top managed to pull up for a shot when Jun Estolas went for a drive and draw move and fed Directo Estolas on the left wing. However, Directo muffed the point-blanked shot and also faltered on his putback.

After the missed chances, Flip Top was left with no choice, but to foul Ali'i to stop the clock, which read at six seconds. Badong Camacho stepped on the foul line, but missed both charities. However, Ali'i returned to the stripe, as Raymond Velasco battled Fidelino in the rebound play and tapped the ball out to Errol Peredo, who was fouled right away by a Flip Top defender. Peredo this time hit the clutch free throws to seal it for Ali'i with three seconds remaining in the game. Flip Top made the last attempt in the close match with Fidelino missing a corner triple.

Peredo top-scored for Ali'i with his 18 points, while Mateo chipped in 17.

Arciaga led Flip Top with his 29 points, while Ronnel Gamboa added 12, but had only 2 points in the fourth canto, as cramps slowed him down in the payoff period.

Ali'i 79 – Peredo 18, Mateo 17, Camacho 15, Devero 12, Mendoza 11, De Leon 3, Velasco 1.

Flip Top 75 – Arciaga 29, Gamboa 12, Fidelino 10, J. Estolas 10, Capalad 4, D. Estolas 4.

Scoring by quarters: 16-28, 37-42, 57-63, 79-75.

CFL

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the season.

Blanco added the champion team in the CFLA youth league will have the option to get select players from the other teams to fortify its roster against Guam.

A separate match will also be played between the CNMI Sharks and a Guam team either late October or early November.

"During the youth season there will also be a men's game, Guam will be coming here to play against us. They like coming out here and play, the camaraderie is always there and it is all about helping out each other," said Blanco.

The CFLA board is looking at opening the men's league by early 2015 or after the youth league season.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	88	60	.595	—
Toronto	77	70	.524	10 1/2
New York	76	71	.517	11 1/2
Tampa Bay	71	78	.477	17 1/2
Boston	65	84	.436	23 1/2

Central Division

Detroit	82	66	.554	—
Kansas City	81	66	.551	1/2
Cleveland	76	71	.517	5 1/2
Chicago	68	80	.459	14
Minnesota	62	86	.419	20

West Division

Los Angeles	93	55	.628	—
Oakland	82	66	.554	11
Seattle	80	67	.544	12 1/2
Houston	65	83	.439	28
Texas	56	92	.378	37

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	84	63	.571	—
Atlanta	75	73	.507	9 1/2
New York	72	77	.483	13
Miami	71	76	.483	13
Philadelphia	69	79	.466	15 1/2

Central Division

St. Louis	82	67	.550	—
Pittsburgh	78	70	.527	3 1/2
Milwaukee	77	72	.517	5
Cincinnati	71	78	.477	11
Chicago	65	83	.439	16 1/2

West Division

Los Angeles	84	64	.568	—
San Francisco	82	66	.554	2
San Diego	68	79	.463	15 1/2
Arizona	60	88	.405	24
Colorado	59	89	.399	25

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World Resort clinches third in 2014 Inter-hotel caging

JON PEREZ

Kae Bernardo (2) made his contribution at the defensive end to help Saipan World Resort clinch third place in the 2014 Budweiser Inter-Hotel Basketball League last Thursday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Saipan World Resort used a strong finishing kick in the fourth quarter to turn back Fiesta Resort and Spa, 77-58, in the battle for third in the 2014 Inter-Hotel Basketball League last Thursday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

It was a tight contest in the first half as both teams alternated in having brief scoring runs with neither squad not leading by as much as 5 points. The half ended with the score knotted at 28.

Eugene Manglona then went to work in the third, scoring 8 of World Resort's 18 points to help his team establish some distance as they entered the fourth quarter holding on to a 46-38 spread.

Jomar Danas, John Lewis, and Dennis Vinas then finished what Manglona started as the trio poured it all in the fourth, burying timely baskets as World Resort ripped the game apart en route to the lopsided win.

Fiesta thus ended up at fourth as the team ran out of steam in the playoffs after ending up tied with Pacific Islands Club atop the standings after the elimination round.

Danas led World Resort with 18 points with Lewis and Manglona providing scoring support with 16 markers apiece. Team captain Vinas scattered 16 more at the offensive end.

Elmer Esdrelon was a one-man scoring machine for Fiesta, dropping 32 points but failed to get the needed support from the rests of his teammates.

Adonis Macoto was the only other Fiesta player that finished in double figures with 13, while the rest of the team combined for 13 markers.

World Resort dropped a 72-65 decision over Shirley's-Century Hotel, while Fiesta suffered an 89-55 lashing against PIC in last week's semifinal matches.

PIC and Shirley's will be battling for the crown with the game to be played either Thursday or Friday this week depending on the availability of both teams and the Ada Gym.

World Resort 77 – Danas 18, Lewis 16, Manglona 16, Vinas 14, Sanchez 6, Tiamzon 4, Valle 2, Bernardo 1.

Fiesta Resort 58 – Esdrelon 32, Macoto 13, Galag 4, Manalo 3, Alokoa 2, Lavarias 2, Matsutaro 2.

Scoring by quarters: 14-14, 28-28, 46-38, 77-58.

KFC draws first blood in U18 division

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

KFC's Wilfredo Francisco goes up for an off-balance shot against two Chalan Kanoa Saints defenders during the fourth quarter of their game in the U18 division of the BANMI youth caging last Thursday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Kentucky Fried Chicken made the grade in its debut in the U18 division of the 2014 BANMI Youth League after routing the Chalan Kanoa Saints, 58-41, last Thursday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Sam Darag starred in KFC's opening game win, as he scored a game-high 14 points. He consistently hit baskets in all four quarters to lift KFC to the 17-point win.

KFC played with a full roster in the kick-off match of the division and that proved to be beneficial for KFC, as it almost always had fresher legs to run the floor against Chalan Kanoa, which missed several other players.

With its players getting enough rest, KFC managed to break the game wide open in the second half after increasing its 5-point cushion at the break, 23-18 to a double-digit winning margin. KFC started taking full control of the match in the third when it more than doubled the Saints' output, 19-8, for a promising 42-26 advantage.

Dicky Feria contributed in the breakaway, as he began and ended the third period with a triple, five other KFC players also hit their marks in that pivotal run. Chalan Kanoa was held to four field goals in the meltdown and had no player score more than a field goal in that period. The 8 points it registered in the third was the second time Chalan Kanoa failed to record twin digits in scoring, as it logged only 7 in the opening canto.

Jun Fidelino, Mike Espinosa, and Toshi Pangelinan then tried to rally back the Saints in the fourth, but received no help at all on offense from their teammates. These three players combined for all of Chalan Kanoa's 15 markers in the final frame.

In contrast, seven different players made baskets for KFC in the fourth canto with Darag and Jethro Cruz leading the balance scoring after canning two field goals apiece. Seven KFC players recorded at least 4 points each at the end of the easy win, while only four Saints players posted more than one basket apiece.

KFC coasted to victory after its consistency on offense in the last three periods, firing 16 each in the second and fourth and 19 in the end. Before getting into its rhythm, KFC had only 7 points in the first quarter after being held to two field goals.

KFC 58 – Darag 14, Javier 8, Cruz 6, Feria 6, O. Warren 6, Ogasawara 4, Francisco 4, H. Warren 2, Myers 1.

C.K. Saints 41 – Espinosa 13, Fidelino 11, Pangelinan 6, Langu 4, Omengkar 2, Floresca 2, Nakashima 2.

Scoring by quarters: 7-7, 23-18, 42-26, 58-41.

Outlawz joins Predator on top of A Division

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Sister teams Sand Juvy Outlawz and Predator had contrasting results in the 2014 Saipan Electronic Darts Association Bud Light Dart League, but both teams did enough to share the top ranking in the A Division after last week's games held in various bars on the island.

The Outlawz thrashed Naked Fish Riin'Darrty, 14-3, to grab the lead after Week 3 in the 10-team field in one of SEDA's premier divisions.

The Predator, however, dropped a 9-8 decision against the 101 Proofers but had enough wins that allowed them to join the Outlawz on top of the standings.

Both the Outlawz and the Predator hold 45-23 slates, while Naked Fish is close at third with a 43-25 card.

In other A Division results, Bud Brothers scored an 11-6 win over Comatose, the Hunters cruised to a 13-4 triumph over the Mixblood Shooter, and the Sakude! had an easy 13-4 victory against the Mafia.

The Jokers Destroyers widened its lead over closest purser and sister squad TRA-Bull Makerz after an 11-6 trouncing of Sand Juvy Shoot Balut in the Masters. The Jokers edged the Master Outlawz, 9-8, in the other pairing.

In other division results, the Jokers X-ecutioners and Dabarkads pulled off similar 8-7 wins over Smoke Pub Dartaholics and D'Mekaniks in Tuesday B, while the Route33 MixbloodShooter 2 ripped the Sand Juvy Sparkz, 12-3. Marupok edged High on Darts, 9-6, and the Snipers tripped Fearless, 10-5.

The Sand Juvy Vicious Darties, Naked Fish Dartin' Divas, and the Smoke Pub Mixed Nutz defeated their respective rivals in the Ladies class, the Jokers Kitty Kats (10-5); Smoke Pub Ladies Bull-It! (9-6); and Route 33 Avengers (8-7).

Joe's DNA Jump It!, Jokers Disciples, and Blue Koi's pulled off 8-7 wins over the Sand Juvy Ta Chagi, Smoke Pub Snipers, and VFW 'Ombak' Hit'em Up to lead the Chichirika C Division winners. The Barcode Breakers pounded Smoke Pub Bull-It, 11-4, while Poseideon Feelin' Lucky clipped the Jokers Spartans, 10-5.

In the Kingfisher C category, the Jokers BSEA Sunsports and the Route 33 Chagi Fan!!! scored 10-5 wins over the Naked Fish Hafa Mas and the Oleai Rebelz, while the Dark Knights blasted the Darty Minded, 11-4.

The Route 33 Mixblood Shoters 3 dumped Sand Juvy No Fear, 12-3, to lead the Fanihi Thursday B division winners. D'Mekaniks mauled the 80 Proofers, 11-4, while the Bud Kings squeezed out an 8-7 decision over the VFW Warriors and Put3ska tripped Jokers Chagi Fan, 9-6, to remain on top at 43-17.

In the Thursday Flame Tree B, the Jokers Warriors and Sand Juvy Team Dart Balas scored similar 9-6 wins over Naked Fish Ridin' Darrty and Joe's Serial Killaz, respectively. Na'Gupu escaped with an 8-7 victory over Oneshot, while Jonny's Kyodai stomped past Team Figan, 13-2.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Jokers Latte Darts took a bye in Week 3 but remains on top of the Kingfisher C Division in the 2014 Bud Light Dart League.

Mayweather remains unbeaten despite bite complaint

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Hite Jinro vs San Antonio in finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Hite Jinro dethroned Island Floral, following a 77-75 win in a tension-filled semis game in the DL Corp Invitational Basketball League Season 4 last Friday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Juan Camacho canned a game-tying triple, while Kevin De Leon drained a pair of clutch free throws to lift Hite Jinro to the 2-point win and hand the team the second and last finals berth. Hite Jinro was scheduled to duel San Antonio, which eliminated Saipan Ice in the other pairing, 103-97, in the winner-take-all finale last night and results of the championship match were unavailable at press time. Island Floral (formerly Island Manpower), which defeated TBK Mechanics in the Season 3 finals, also played last night in a battle for third place against Saipan Ice.

Camacho bravely pulled up for a triple in front of Hite Jinro's bench on the right sideline where team captain Marlon Sison was standing and telling his teammates just to go for a quick 2, as Island Floral was ahead by only 3, 75-72, with about one minute left in the game. Camacho's gamble paid off, as his wide-open long shot hit nothing but the bottom of the net and tied the match, 30.9 seconds remaining on the clock.

The score was deadlocked in the next two possessions, as Hite and Island Floral traded errors in the backcourt. Island Floral's Pete Lizama committed the first one, as he was called for a dribbling violation, while trying to fake off and prevent Zack Babauta from stealing the ball after getting the inbound

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Hite Jinro's Jason Lampkin uses the board to make a layup against Island Floral's Jerome Norita, while the latter's teammate Zack Diaz steps in for a possible rebound during the second quarter of their semis game in the DL Corp. caging last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Ali'i back in the finals of DLX caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Ali'i earned a return trip to the finals after edging Flip Top, 79-78, in the final game in the semis round of the 2014 DLX Invitational Basketball League last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Nate Mateo engineered a fourth-quarter comeback, scoring 13 points, including the equalizer, while Ivan Devero and Errol Peredo delivered the telling blows to give Ali'i the second and last finals berth. Ali'i, which won the previous competition against I Love Saipan, 74-65, will defend its championship against Ghasias Brothers later this week. Ghasias, which won the continuation of its rained-out match over Flip Top last Friday, 98-91, took the first finals ticket after sweeping the round-robin elimination and gaining a perfect 3-0 record, while Ali'I ended up with a 2-1 slate after eliminating Flip Top.

It was a sorry loss for Flip Top, as it wasted an early 12-point lead (28-16) and failed to hang on to an 8-point cushion in the opening minutes of the final canto (65-57), while Mateo anchored Ali's recovery.

Mateo's sixth basket in the fourth, which matched the entire field goal of Flip Top, tied the game for the last time 75-all, going into the last 1:45 of the match. Mike Arciaga, who has been making most of his shots in the first three periods,

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Ali'i's Kobe Mendoza goes up for a running jumper against Flip Top's Mike Arciaga, left, and Ronnel Gamboa during the third quarter of their game in the semis round of the DLX caging last Saturday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Lightning tries to strike twice in CFL youth league

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Football League Association is set to open the 2014 Youth League next month with the champion team earning the right of representing the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in a match against Guam.

CFLA board chair John Blanco said they are looking to start the season on Oct. 25, with the three competing teams all eager to put on another impressive performance on the field.

"They already started their training and all of them are getting ready. The age limit is until 15 years old," said Blanco.

The Dave Ada-mentored Eastern Lightning are hoping to duplicate their undefeated title run this year against the Joe Ocampo-coached Southern Thunder and the Northern Saints of bench tactician Jermaine Catching.

Blanco said a fourth team could have been formed but did not materialize due to lack of coaching staff that will handle the squad.

Tournament format will have a two round-robin system where each team will face their opponents twice. The top two will play in the finals with the winning team earning the right to face the Guam champion after

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Eastern Lightning tries to win a second straight title when the 2014 season of the Commonwealth Football League Association opens its youth season next month.